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Cadastral Surveying in Colonial South Carolina: a Historical Geography.

Linda Marie Pett-conklin

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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CADASTRAL SURVEYING IN COLONIAL SOUTH CAROLINA: A HISTORICAL
GEOGRAPHY

The Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical Col.

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**CADASTRAL SURVEYING IN COLONIAL SOUTH CAROLINA:
A HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY**

A Dissertation

**Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the
Louisiana State University and
Agricultural and Mechanical College
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of
Doctor of Philosophy**

in

The Department of Geography and Anthropology

by

**Linda M. Pett-Conklin
B.S., Radford College, 1974
M.A., University of South Carolina, 1976
May 1986**

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LINDA MARIE PETT-CONKLIN

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ABSTRACT

Colonial South Carolina's cadastral pattern evolved as the product of a variety of factors. Foremost was the ability of settlers to choose the sites of their landholdings. This authority was limited, however, by official policies that prevented settlers from determining the size, shape, and quality of land in their grants. Expressed rules for surveying riparian and inland tracts in rectangular shapes resulted in a more regular pattern of landownership than is generally assumed in a metes and bounds survey. Within the guidelines of these and other policies, colonist nonetheless were permitted to occupy land in non-contiguous tracts resulting in a patchwork pattern of land tenure. Settlement in South Carolina, though, was not unsystematic or indiscriminate, it simply lacked a rigid overall spatial framework.

The metes and bounds survey system used in South Carolina was not haphazard or random. From the earliest settlement in 1670, surveyors used a magnetic compass and chain to mark out boundaries consistent with the intended shape and amount of acreage to which a settler was entitled. Markers such as trees and topographical features were chosen on or very

near to the boundary lines. Surveying techniques and instruments used were simple and inexpensive, but often inexact. Because it was logistically easier for early surveyors to lay out rectangular shapes, their methods likely reinforced the policies for such regularity promoted by colonial officials.

Another factor that influenced the look of South Carolina's cadastral landscape was settlers' and surveyors' changing conceptions about land quality. Surveyors not only performed a technical service for their patrons, but they were asked frequently to assess the quality of lands in their districts. In his role as land assayer, the surveyor exerted considerable influence on the evolution of property boundaries in the colony. In addition, changing notions about the usefulness of certain types of land, especially swamp and marsh lowlands, contributed another factor in the development of the cadastral pattern.

As South Carolinians began more often to claim contiguous properties, the weaknesses of the metes and bounds survey system were revealed in increasing numbers of property disputes. Sources of survey errors included poor instruments, inexact techniques, and mistakes or miscalculations made by surveyors. Perhaps the most serious cause of dispute and the one most commonly brought to litigation was the surveyor's failure to survey all boundaries of a tract of land, or to field check previous claims. Another

major area of dispute among landowners involved claims on physical features such as swamp or marsh land, rivers, and riverine or coastal submerged land. Most such disputes appeared to result from changing conceptions through time regarding their use.

Any cadastral pattern is determined by the settlement type and South Carolina's is no exception. Colonists chose initially to occupy land in isolated non-contiguous tracts, thereby creating oddly shaped parcels in between. The resulting patchwork pattern of landownership supports this fact. It is erroneous to assume, however, that this nonsystematic appearance reflects completely haphazard or helter skelter land apportionment. An accurate understanding of land acquisition can only be achieved from a historical point of view on a micro regional basis. Broad generalizations especially regarding lands occupied at different times and under different political jurisdictions lead to oversimplification and incorrect assumptions.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Perhaps no other landscape feature reveals more about man's association with the land than the cadastral pattern created by individual property boundaries. Such patterns represent a "visual statement on the landscape and often reveal less of their present functionalism than of the genetic aspect which brought them into being" (Johnson, 1976: 21). Cadastre maps for the earliest settled parts of North America generally depict a chaotic pattern with no obvious system of land apportionment (Figure 1-1). Like a still life painting, though, these maps show only a moment in time. An understanding of the landscape's evolution is obscured and the dynamic process by which the environment was subdued is subject to misinterpretation.

Two themes persist throughout this study of colonial South Carolina's cadastral landscape. First, survey systems and patterns that evolved in separate colonial jurisdictions must be viewed as distinct entities. Official

survey policies existed in South Carolina and strongly influenced the look of the cadastral landscape. Generalizations, therefore, cannot readily apply to other colonies. Second, the metes and bounds survey system was a rational attempt to apportion land. In the absence of an overall spatial plan, the system was fraught with problems, but nonetheless it was well adapted to the physical environment and to the level of technology available to colonial surveyors.

A Framework of Ideas

The scramble for land in colonial America resulted in a wide variety of settlement types as each community expressed political, social, and economic concepts in terms of property ownership. Cadastral patterns that developed in each region often provide the basis for assessments of the settlement process. American colonies, especially those in the South, are commonly assumed to have had no systematic survey system or plan, aside from the idealistic vision of colonial officials and proprietors in England. Most colonial governments were unwilling or unable to prevent settlers from choosing the sites of their tracts. Thus, the notion of a large-scale land survey plan in any of the colonies was never achieved. The result was a dispersed, some would say haphazard, settlement type.

Colonial land surveys stand in marked contrast to the national land system initiated by the Ordinance of 1785. In areas affected by the federal survey, individual landholdings were surveyed prior to settlement and were oriented to the cardinal directions to fit contiguously into an overall grid pattern. While colonial surveys did not mirror the regularity produced by this system, they were far from haphazard. Settlers typically located their landholdings to take advantage of the physical landscape. Rivers, especially, formed the boundaries of many plantations as waterways commonly were nodes for settlement (Johnson, 1976; Trewartha, 1946). Colonial surveyors accomplished their task by the metes and bounds survey method. Property boundaries were delineated along lines drawn between designated markers or monuments such as trees, stakes, and other landscape features. Landholdings typically were not oriented to a larger spatial framework or to each other, so their compass orientations assumed any preferred direction.

Perhaps because an obvious overall survey plan was not evident, many scholars have dismissed the variety of colonial survey systems by stating simply that "irregular metes and bounds" characterized the land systems of the period. Aubrey Land's work on the bases of the plantation society, for example, includes a section on the land system, but his brief remarks mirror those of other scholars: "In the planting colonies, boundary lines followed

terrain features and landmarks in helter-skelter fashion" (Land, 1969: 29).

Likewise, Lewis C. Gray includes a chapter on colonial land systems in his two-volume work on Southern antebellum agriculture, but he focuses on land tenure with little attention to surveying practices, except to state that: "surveys were frequently exceedingly crude, the boundaries extremely irregular, and marked by 'blazing' trees" (Gray, 1958: 396).

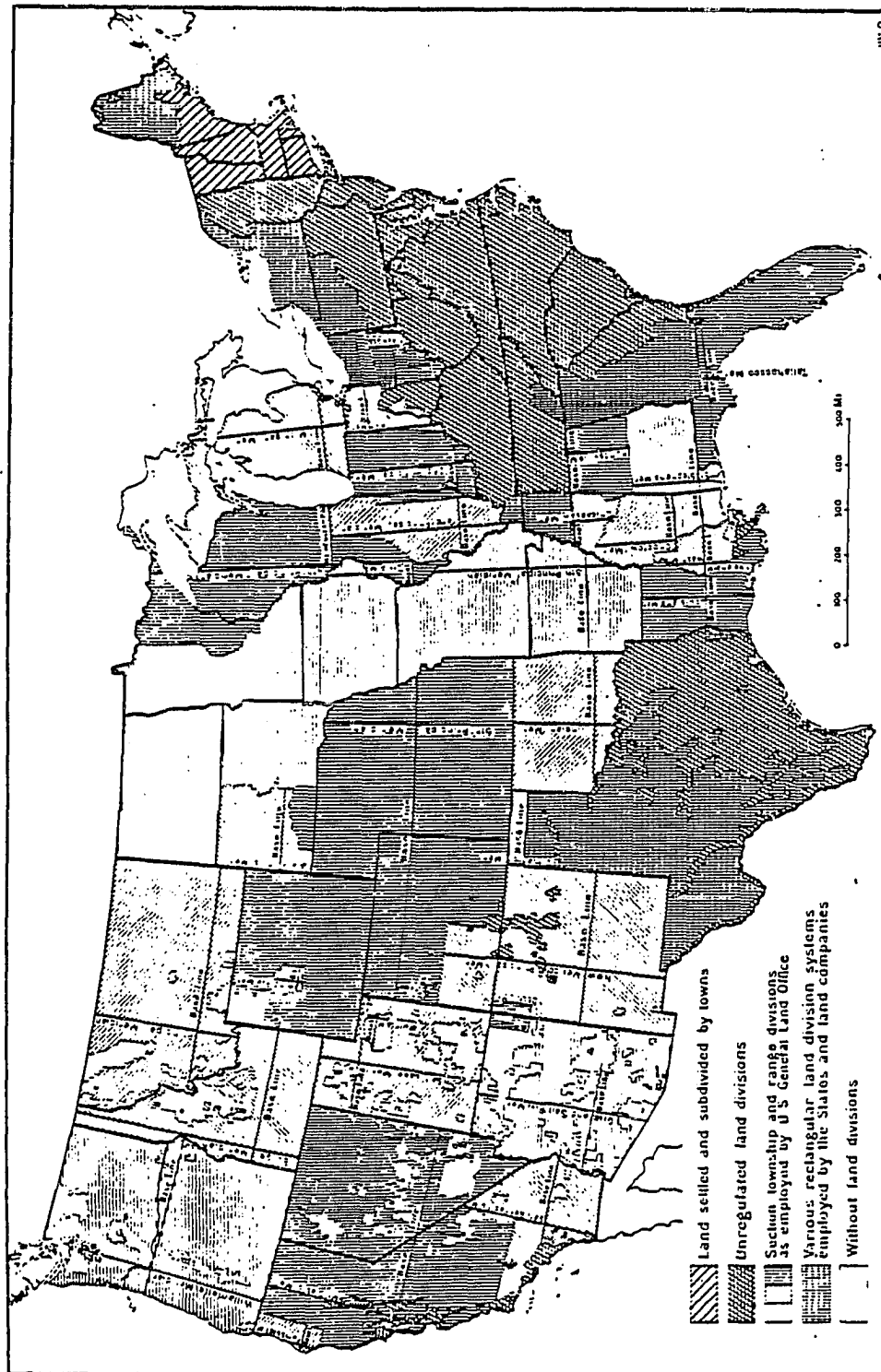
Only a few scholars have researched the survey systems of the British American colonies. Ford's early (1910) work on colonial precedents for the national land system reviews indirectly all that was regular and orderly about colonial surveys to show how they may have shaped Thomas Jefferson's vision of the federal system. For example, she points out the consistent use of long lots along rivers as evidence of the rectangular principle and notes South Carolina's plan to have inland tracts surveyed as squares, but she reveals no evidence to show that it was executed. Overall, Ford concludes that colonial surveying was largely inaccurate, that surveyors were negligent, and that there was an "utter lack of any regular system" (Ford, 1910: 14-25).

The land survey systems of New England have been studied more thoroughly, perhaps because of the perception that this region exhibited a more orderly procedure (e.g., Eggleston, 1886; Scofield, 1938; Trewartha,

1946). Recent research on land systems in colonial Massachusetts, however, reveals that the land arrangements there were not at all the vision of order and regularity that the existing body of scholarship describes (Konig, 1974).

Southern colonies, on the other hand, have received scant attention in regard to land surveying. A common misconception is that the survey systems of the southern colonies were largely homogeneous and did not vary spatially. Marschner's (1953) map, which shows the areal spread of different land survey types in the United States, for example, aggregates most of the South (north of central Georgia) and much of the Northeast (south of New England) in the broad category of "unregulated land divisions" (Figure 1-2). This perception is changing though, as more researchers recognize the variety of land survey systems in the colonies. Hilliard's introductory article (1973) is the first to outline broadly different survey systems for at least part of the region extending from Louisiana to Georgia. In a more recent study, Hilliard (1982) reports on land surveying techniques in Hart County, Georgia, during the late 1700s. Hughes has done a superb job researching the development of land measuring techniques and instruments in colonial Virginia. She dispels, at least for Virginia, the popular notion that early colonial surveyors did not actually measure their tracts of land, but simply estimated the specified acreages (Hughes, 1979: 41-44). Hughes's work in

FIGURE 1-2
MARSCHNER'S MAP OF LAND DIVISION TYPES



Source: Marschner, 1959: 12.

particular is the kind of in-depth study necessary for better comprehension of the South's cadastral landscape.

Although little detailed work has been done, the fundamental importance of survey systems to the settlement process and the influence of the cadastral pattern on land use have not been totally ignored. In Kuhn's prospectus on settlement geography, written with the cooperation of Dickinson, Hall, and Kniffen, the authors plea for careful investigation of geometric patterns in North American settlement (James and Jones, 1954). Thrower's comparative study of the form and effect of contrasting cadastral surveys in Ohio demonstrates the impact of survey systems on administrative boundaries, transportation lines, farmstead orientation, land use, subsequent land subdivision, and even the placement of ornamental vegetation (Thrower, 1966). Most research on the effect of survey systems on other aspects of settlement has dealt with areas surveyed after 1785 by the national land system (e.g., Johnson, 1976). These studies have consistently shown the enduring influence of the cadastral pattern on the landscape. The various metes and bounds survey systems used in colonial America, though, remain essentially a mystery, surrounded by false assumptions and broad generalizations. Perhaps with greater understanding of the actual creation of cadastral boundaries in the early colonies, we can

achieve a better interpretation of the modern landscape.

The Study Area

South Carolina was established in 1663 by a British royal grant to eight titled Englishmen (the proprietors of the colony), whose expressed purpose in managing the new territory was to achieve a large revenue from rent producing land (Figure 1-3 and Figure 1-4). Perhaps more than any other early American colony, Carolina was set up by its promoters specifically as an economic-agricultural enterprise. The colony's charter guaranteed religious and political tolerance as a matter of course. Generous land allotments provided to new settlers were the most compelling incentive for immigration to the colony. Many settlers also were motivated by the chance to gain private title to their land. Although the proprietors developed an elaborate plan to set up a type of feudal settlement system in the colony, they did not promote any form of communal land ownership as attempted in Virginia and the New England colonies. South Carolina's settlement was encouraged not as a social experiment, but as a way in which everyone involved could realize financial rewards.

In a frenzy of activity that lasted from 1670 to 1775 millions of acres were granted to South Carolina colonists. Reasons for claiming tracts varied

FIGURE 1-3
CAROLINA IN 1711



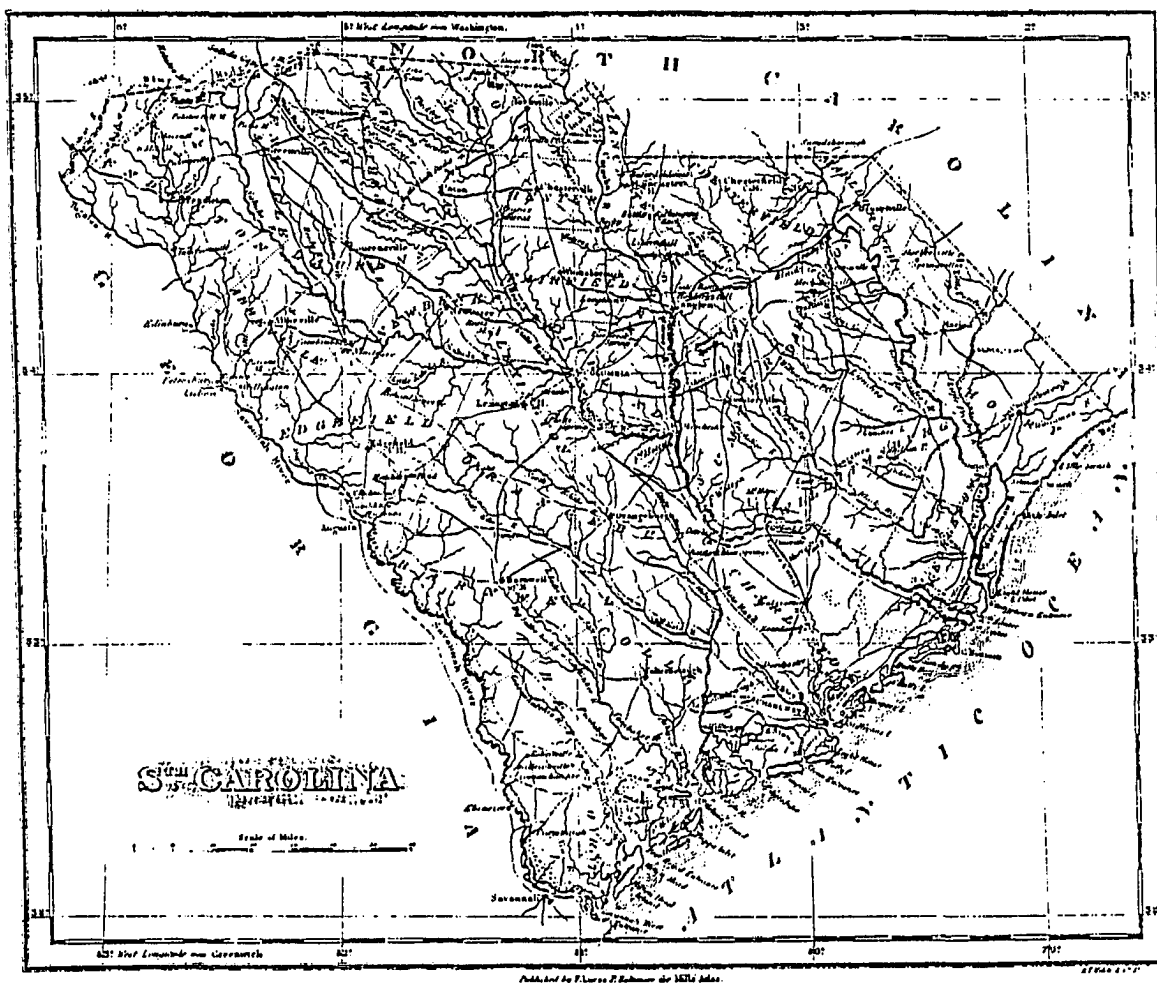
Source: Cumming, 1958: plate 50.

FIGURE 1-4

SOUTH CAROLINA IN 1825

BY ROBERT MILLS, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, P. A.
ENGINEER AND ARCHITECT.

TO THE HONORABLE THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS WORK IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY THE AUTHOR.



Source: Mills, 1825: 44.

among individuals, but it is clear that the desire for land reflected a widespread belief that land meant opportunity, freedom, and status. As elsewhere on the continent, however, land was considered useless until cadastral boundaries were drawn and private ownership assured.

The role of the surveyor and land survey system was of crucial importance to the economic success of South Carolina. Colonists were interested in having lands allotted to them properly "layd out and bound" so that legal titles or grants could be issued (Cheves, 1897, Shaftesbury Papers...: 381; hereafter cited as Shaftesbury Papers). One of the first officials appointed to serve in the colony was a surveyor general who was responsible for creating a "squared" landscape from a territory perceived as vast and irregular (Shaftesbury Papers: 381). South Carolina's colonists initially viewed the province as an untamed place, but one that when traced with discrete fields and fencerows would protect private land ownership and ensure prosperity.

Agenda and Sources

This study examines a variety of factors that influenced the evolution of South Carolina's cadastral landscape. Although a major part of the work deals with the resulting geometry of land surveying, I also investigated

questions of policy, expertise, and effectiveness.

South Carolina's colonial land grant (or land tenure) policies have been covered adequately by many authors and were reviewed thoroughly in a book by Robert Ackerman (1977). Such policies did affect the survey systems, however, and a brief review is provided in Chapter 2.

No systematic study of the office of surveyor general in South Carolina has been done, and little has been written about individual surveyors of the colonial period. The most enlightening records concerning the office are discussions found in the Council Journals for South Carolina, and in acts contained within the Statutes at Large of South Carolina, edited by T. P. Cooper and D. McCord (hereafter cited as Statutes). Other sources pertaining to the office, or to surveyors in general, include Records in the British Public Record Office Relating to South Carolina, (hereafter cited as BPRO-SC), and various volumes of the Miscellaneous Records, all of which are housed at the South Carolina State Archives in Columbia. The Archives' staff has compiled a preliminary list of surveyors for the royal period (1730-1776).²

Unfortunately, only one surveyor's notebook has survived from the colonial period and its author has yet to be determined. Further, only a few letters written by or to surveyors have been located. References concerning the earliest surveyors, however, can be found throughout primary documents,

but no one has yet attempted to assimilate these items into a single narrative. Chapter 3 is intended to fill this void and to ascertain the role of the office of surveyor general in colonial affairs.

The proprietors of South Carolina devised explicit policies on how their lands were to be divided among the Carolina settlers. They decided from the beginning that the entire province should be surveyed completely and that land units should be squared off into baronies, seigniories, and colonies. Thereafter, surveying policies for individual landholdings in the colony became increasingly elaborate. The purpose of Chapter 4 is to annotate these policies and to determine if they were followed by surveyors in the field.

From the time of initial settlement, surveyors in South Carolina were required to draw plats or maps of the lands they measured out. Plats thus represent the best record concerning the activities of these men and the surveying process. Because of the chaotic land policies of the proprietary period (1670-1729), plats from this time are found throughout different sets of official records, but most often they are bound in the Memorial Books. Land policies in the royal period (1730-1776) were made more systematic, and plats from this time exist as two basic types: those kept by the surveyor general's office in a loose form and those recorded in a bound volume. For

the royal period there are 23,285 loose plats filed alphabetically by the name of the person for whom the land was surveyed. Because of sometimes elaborate surveying notes found on them, the loose plats are thought to be the original copy first drawn by the surveyor, either while in the field or later from his notes. For this reason the loose plats are used in this study even though the set is considered to be incomplete because there are more recorded (bound) plats than loose ones. In addition, as the loose plats were filed without regard to the person who received the land grant, there are instances when a complete set of records (warrant, loose plat, recorded plat, and grant) is unavailable for an individual parcel of land.

A stratified random sample of 901 plats was taken from the entire set available for the colonial period. Information from the plats was coded so that the data could be analyzed by use of a computer (Appendix I). Simple correlations were made between sets of data to analyze surveying techniques used in the field.

In Chapter 4, I discuss two additional factors that influenced South Carolina's cadastral landscape. One is the surveyor's role as land assayer in directing the land acquisition process. The other relates to changing conceptions of land use and their subsequent effect on surveying policies and techniques. A few early plats that show swamp or marsh, for example,

do not indicate that the grantee actually claimed this type of land based on the boundaries established by the survey. Later plats, however, show marsh or swamp land specifically included within the bounds of the grant. Swamps and tidal marsh areas were viewed differently beginning about 1740 as rice became a widespread crop. Chapter 4 documents this change in the perception of land quality in colonial South Carolina. Marsh-granting practices also have special significance in light of a current debate between landowners along the Atlantic coast and the state of South Carolina. The landowners claim that the marsh was granted to their predecessors and thus legally belongs to them (Baldwin, 1976).

Those trying to piece together old plats and those interested in the work of past surveyors often ponder the question of accuracy. We know that seventeenth- and eighteenth-century surveyors worked with imprecise instruments and that the average man possessed only a rudimentary knowledge of mathematics. More often, however, the uncertainty lies in the impression that most early surveyors did not actually measure out the lands that they trod over, but simply estimated the bounds of acreages specified in patents and warrants. Labelling colonial surveying as unsystematic and indiscriminate implies that metes and bounds surveys were irrational and inherently inaccurate. Chapter 5 resolves some questions about the accuracy

and rationality of surveyors and surveying practices in colonial South Carolina.

Florence O'Sullivan, South Carolina's first surveyor general, perhaps exemplifies the worst of the colony's surveyors. He was grossly ignorant of the practices of surveying, and indeed he may have been one of those who only estimated acreages for surveys. Undoubtedly, others made serious errors or were negligent in their duties. Of the plats examined for this study, some are obviously more precisely drawn than others, and overall, the detail with which most are compiled is impressive. Some are truly works of art. Artistry, however, is not the question here, but rather how accurately did the boundaries circumscribe the appropriate acreages?

It is possible to examine colonial landholdings in South Carolina for mathematical accuracy based upon marks made on the plat. This exercise, however, would determine only whether the geometric shape drawn on the plan contains the desired acreage. It would not insure that what the plat appears to represent is what it actually does represent when marked out on the ground.³ Because plats normally contain little reference to physical features that can be identified on the contemporary landscape, it would be difficult to "field check" the accuracy of colonial surveys.⁴ One means of checking the work of a surveyor is to review land disputes in an effort to

infer his original intentions. In this regard, Cooper's (1854) monograph was an important source of information because it included a section on court cases that exemplified and set precedents for common land disputes in South Carolina. These cases were examined for more information on disputes and on legal decisions that resulted from them. Although complete testimonies were not available, the arguments and decisions often are elaborate and show the aptitude and rationale of colonial surveyors, as well as the commonly held concept of how the survey system should function.

The sixth and final chapter concludes the study and provides suggestions for further work on this or a related topic.

ENDNOTES

1. "Carolina" was the name given to a huge region south of Virginia. In time it was divided into North and South Carolina and Georgia. This study deals specifically with the area encompassed by South Carolina, since the evolution of settlement and the administration of three colonies was separate from the beginning.
2. A more complete list for the entire colonial period is provided in Appendix II.
3. T. P. Cooper (1854) cited this as reason for compiling his monograph.
4. This has been done on a small scale by M. Elmer Parker, a researcher at the South Carolina State Archives. He first traces ownership of an old grant to a present-day owner, then compares the plat to outlines of modern landholdings on aerial photographs taken for tax purposes. Accurate acreages and boundaries are known on the tax maps and can be used to test the precision of the old plats. This procedure, although interesting, is extremely time consuming and is not a method under consideration for use in this study.

CHAPTER 2

SOUTH CAROLINA'S COLONIAL LAND GRANT POLICIES: A REVIEW

South Carolina's early land grant policies were framed carefully, although idealistically, from the philosophies and ideas of seventeenth-century Englishmen. In the initial plans of the eight lords proprietors and well known philosopher John Locke, little attention was paid to the land or to its intended uses. Carolina was thought of simply as territory, a province in which a transplanted English way of life could be built. Official edicts from the proprietors and later royal governors not only designated the policies of land tenure, but also indicated precise ways in which the land should be subdivided, especially according to various grand settlement schemes.

Ordering the Landscape: The Grand Plans

The proprietors of the new colony of Carolina were keenly interested in the orderly dispersal of their lands and, perhaps even more, in the regular

collection of quitrents on lands granted. To achieve these goals, specific provisions for the granting of land in the colony were enunciated in several official documents. First in the Concessions and Agreements made in 1665 between the first settlers from Barbados and the proprietors, and later in the Fundamental Constitutions (written by John Locke and Lord Ashley, one of the proprietors), issued in 1669 to all settlers. Initially the proprietors felt that there would be too few settlers to implement the Fundamental Constitutions, so beginning in 1670 with the first settlement, a series of "Temporary Laws" were promulgated to ensure the dispersal of land consistent with their wishes.

Colonial Officials recognized that political boundaries would have to be established before any of the instruments of government could operate. Accordingly, the first documents issued by the proprietors divided the province into counties. Each county was to be subdivided into eight seigniories, eight baronies, and four precincts; each precinct would be further divided into six colonies. Thus, each county would comprise forty units: eight seigniories, eight baronies, and twenty-four colonies. The colonies were to be settled by the common people, the seigniories were reserved for the proprietors, and the baronies were set aside for other members of the noble aristocracy. Each seigniory, barony, and colony would contain 12,000

acres, so that the ratio of land provided to the commoners and that to the nobility would be three-fifths to two-fifths. Seigniories and baronies would be organized as manors. This land apportionment system was intended to remain a permanent feature of settlement in South Carolina, thus giving a distinctive feudal character to the colony.

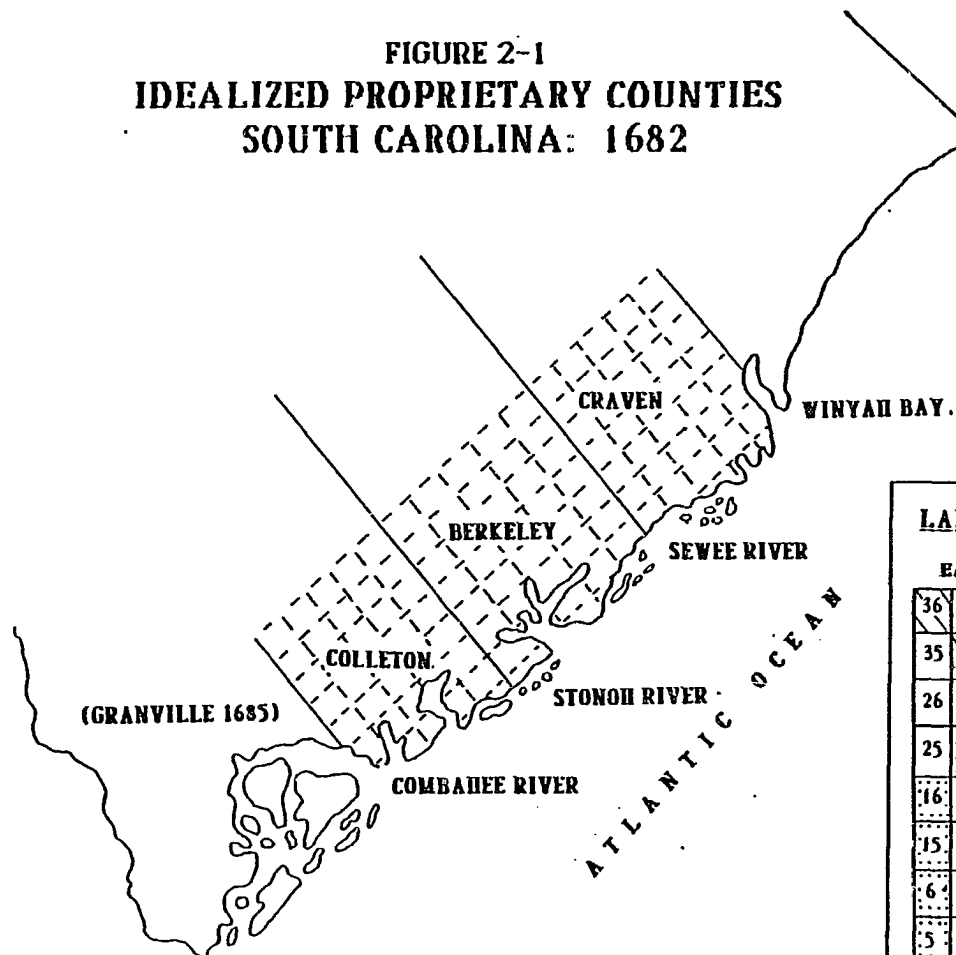
These lofty ideas, including the survey plans, were only partly carried out. The proprietors issued instructions to have three of the colonies surveyed as early as 1672. Each was to contain 12,000 acres with one situated around Charles Town (Charleston), another around James Town, and a third around a place known as Oyster Point (Council Journals, April 23, 1672). There is no conclusive evidence that any of these colonies were actually surveyed, but John Culpeper, then surveyor general of South Carolina, did produce a draft map of the area around Charles Town that was sent to the proprietors in September 1671 (Shaftesbury Papers: 339). Then, in April 1672, Culpeper was given specific orders to survey the land between the Ashley and Wando Rivers in as square a tract of 12,000 acres as the rivers would permit (Salley and Olsberg, 1973: 3). This tract presumably was to be the colony located at Charles Town.

As more settlers came to Carolina, the survey of the whole territory into counties was essential to the success of the proprietor's elaborate scheme.

From 1680 to 1682 the colony's population doubled to number between 2,000 and 2,500 persons (Clowse, 1971: 251). Perhaps it was this sudden influx of immigrants that prompted the proprietors to restate their desires to have the counties surveyed. Specific instructions to delineate Berkeley, Colleton, and Craven counties were issued in May 1682 to Maurice Mathews, South Carolina's third surveyor general. Figure 2-1 represents an idealized depiction of the bounds of the three counties and the location of baronies, seigniories, and colonies according to these instructions. The counties were to comprise forty squares each, five along the sea and eight inland. The squares were to be numbered consecutively beginning with the right hand seaward unit. The selection of baronies and seigniories was without specific locational limitations, except that the tracts had to be taken as a whole and could not be split into less than 12,000 acres. Precincts, or units of six colonies, were to be located around a 500-acre tract of land chosen as a port town on each navigable river. Mathews was instructed to report once every six months on the progress of settlement by referring to this spatial framework. The proprietors promised to pay Mathews 150 pounds for each county surveyed (BPRO-SC, Vol. 1: 130-37).

Although there are no maps or other direct evidence to indicate that Mathews actually surveyed the boundaries as the proprietors wished,

**FIGURE 2-1
IDEALIZED PROPRIETARY COUNTIES
SOUTH CAROLINA: 1682**



SOURCE: ADAPTED FROM GUIDE MAPS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA.
SOUTH CAROLINA STATE ARCHIVES COLLECTION.

LANDHOLDINGS IN A MODEL COUNTY*

EACH SQUARE REPRESENTS 12,000 ACRES

36	37	38	39	40
35	34	33	32	31
26	27	28	29	30
25	24	23	22	21
16	17	18	19	20
15	14	13	12	11
6	7	8	9	10
5	4	3	2	1

PORT CITY

*CHOICE OF LOCATION FOR EACH UNIT WAS ARBITRARY.

LEGEND



**SEIGNOIRIES
RESERVED FOR THE
PROPRIETORS**



**BARONIES
RESERVED FOR
OTHER NOBILITY**



**COLONIES
RESERVED FOR THE
COMMONERS**

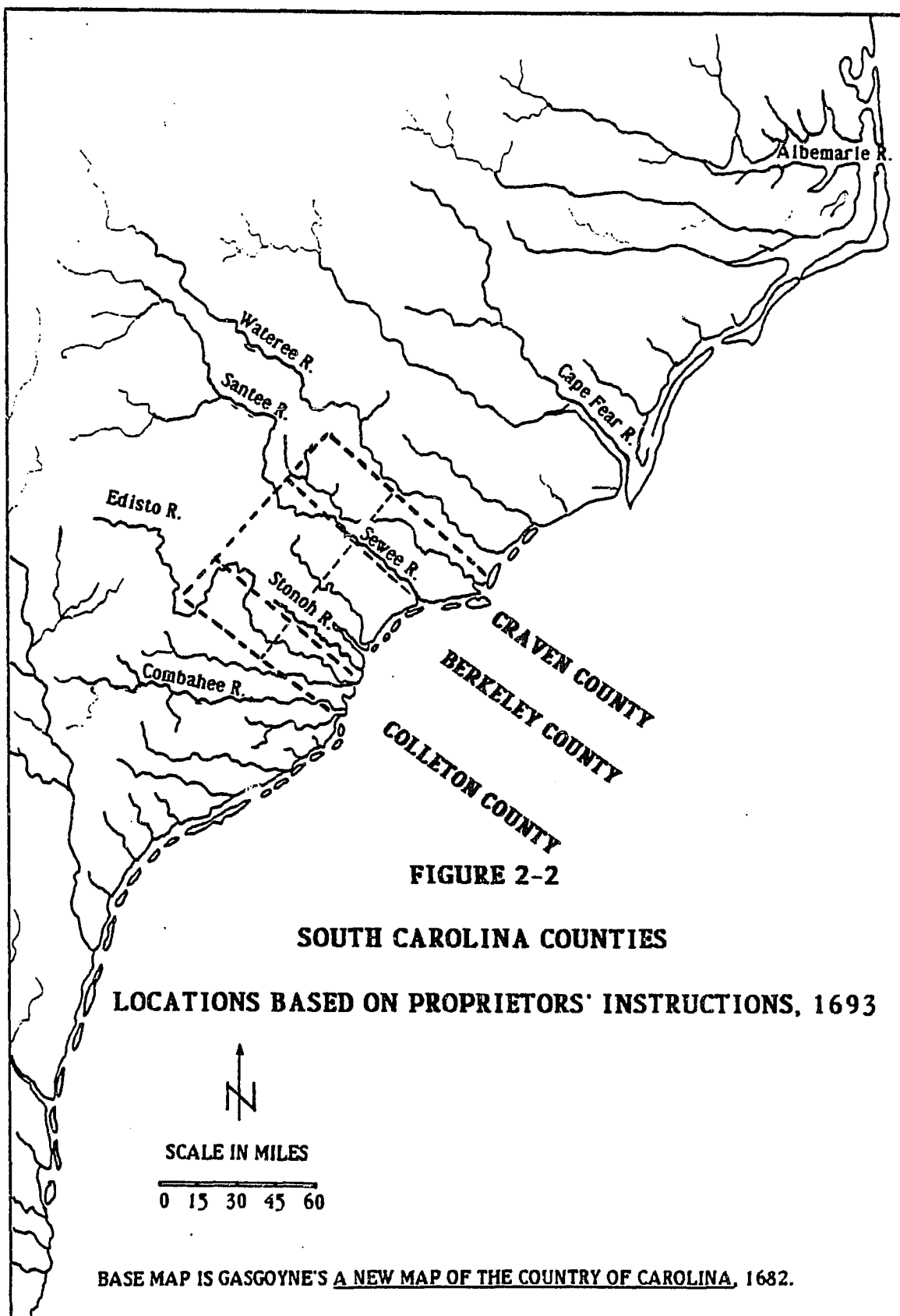
references to these specific counties began appearing in 1683 on warrants for land to be surveyed for individual settlers (Salley & Olsberg, 1973: 297, 305, 311). It is difficult to ascertain if the names merely indicated a general location, or if the exact county boundaries were known. Joel Gascoyne's 1682 map of Carolina labels the three counties generally, but it does not show specific boundaries (Cumming, 1958: Plate 39). In 1685, however, a fourth county, Granville, was located to the south of Colleton, suggesting perhaps that at least rough boundaries for the first three counties existed prior to 1685 (Rogers, 1973: 11).

In a 1693 communique from the proprietors to Philip Ludwell, then governor of North and South Carolina, a general description of the county boundaries was reiterated. This description spells out how the boundaries of successive northward counties should be drawn. Accordingly, the bounds of Craven County would run from the Sewee River 23 miles northeast along the shore and, from that point, 35 miles inland; the bounds of Berkeley County would be the Sewee River on the northeast, along the ocean to the Stonoh River on the southwest, and then 35 miles inland; the bounds of Colleton County would be the Stonoh River on the northeast and the Combahee River on the southwest then 35 miles inland. Those counties sited more than 35 miles inland would have the same rivers as their northeast-southwest

boundaries, or if the rivers did not run that far, straight lines would be drawn to extend as far inland as 35 miles from the northernmost boundaries of the seaward counties (Salley, 1916: 13), (Figure 2-2).

Needless to say, the proprietors' grand plan for the spatial apportionment of land in the colony was never achieved. Although they issued several sets of instructions specifically relating to the survey of their province, the settlers and even the officials of the proprietary government showed little inclination to observe these rules. The freedom to take up land of one's own choosing generally precluded the proprietors' scheme to create an orderly English feudal society in South Carolina. Furthermore, with a few exceptions, the proprietors' plan was almost entirely ignored after the Crown gained control of the colony in 1729.

The transition of the government from proprietary to royal, however, did not suspend the dream of promoting an ordered settlement in South Carolina. Robert Johnson became the first royal governor of the colony in 1730. He was faced immediately with two serious problems: a land system that was in shambles, and a black slave population that outnumbered whites by two to one (20,000 to 10,000) (Clowse, 1971: 252). To counter these problems, Johnson introduced a plan that became known as the "Township Scheme." This plan established a series of frontier townships in which



settlers would receive both town lots and planting lots, and where land would be reserved for churches, schools, and other public uses (Meriwether, 1940: 19). It was hoped that the establishment of townships would encourage more white settlers to immigrate to the colony, as well as establish an orderly settlement system, and provide the colony with greater stability along its unsettled frontier.

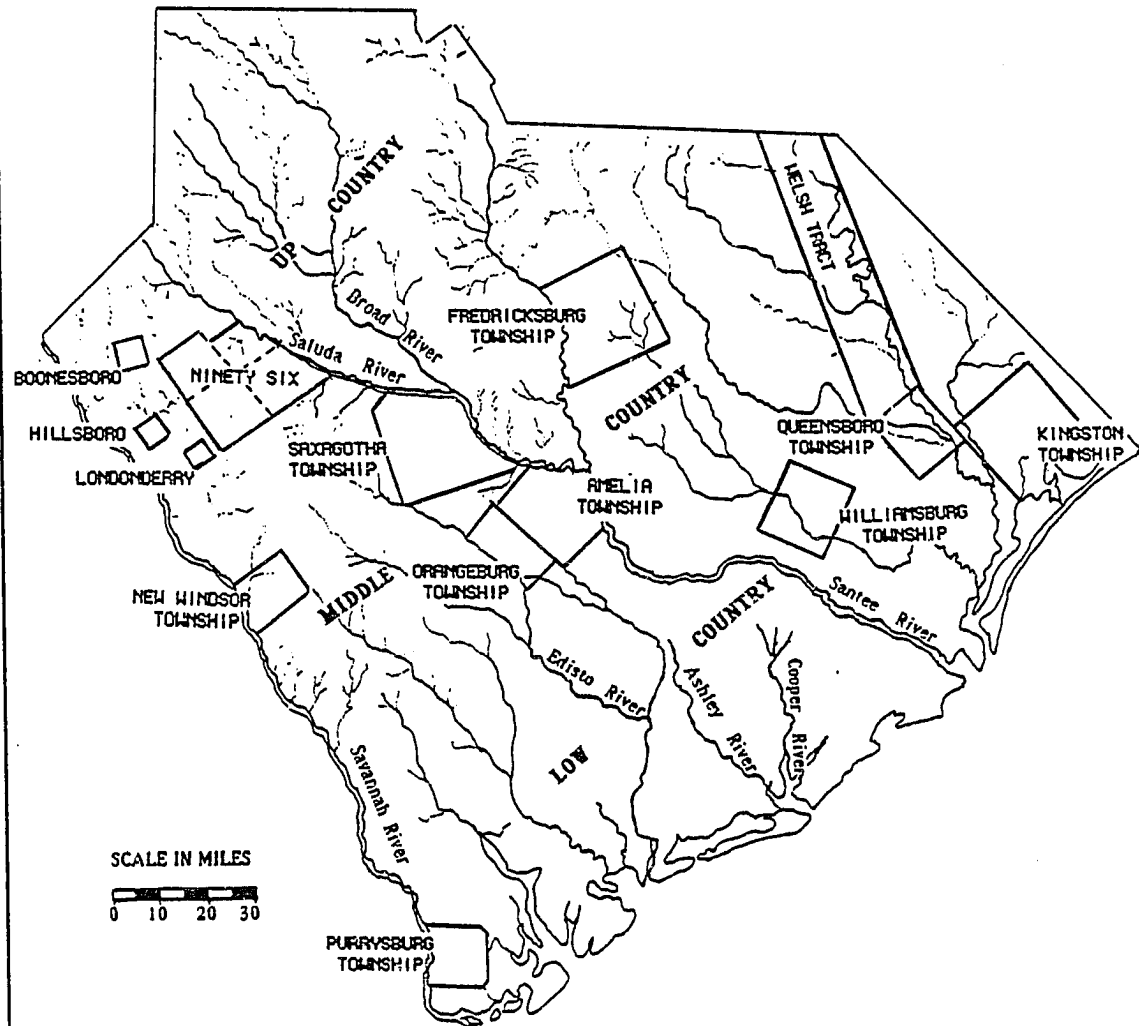
By 1740, the general outline boundaries of nine townships had been surveyed, and the settlement scheme had attracted almost three thousand settlers to the middle country of South Carolina (Ackerman, 1977: 86) (Figure 2-3). Although the towns, which were planned to be the focus of the townships, never prospered as hoped, the township settlement system did achieve the purposes for which it had been established. More importantly, perhaps, the success of the township scheme demonstrated that some semblance of a basic land system operated in the early settlement of South Carolina

Providing the Lands: Grants and Quitrents

As in the Virginia and Maryland colonies, the headright system was the primary means for the allocation of land to South Carolina settlers. The proprietors issued specific instructions regarding the amount of land each

FIGURE 2-3

**SOUTH CAROLINA, 1773
SHOWING TOWNSHIPS AND OTHER FRONTIER COMMUNITIES**



SOURCE: ADAPTED FROM JAMES COOK'S A MAP OF THE PROVINCE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1773, AND MAPS IN MERIWETHER, 1940.

freeman or commoner should receive. Individuals above the age of sixteen who came to the colony in the first fleet from Barbados were provided a headright of 150 acres, plus an equal amount for each servant. Servants were promised 70 acres upon completion of their indenture (Shaftesbury Papers: 121). Those who immigrated prior to 1665, but not in the first fleet, would receive 100 acres each for a freeman and his wife, and 50 acres per servant. Colonists coming to Carolina in 1665 would be given 75 acres for each freeman and woman, 70 acres for each young able-bodied male servant, and 40 acres for each older or less able servant. After 1665, the proprietors issued proportionately smaller headrights, reasoning that individuals coming later were taking fewer risks. By 1730, headrights had decreased to 50 acres per person: man, woman, child, servant, or slave (Ackerman, 1977: 15, 66). Nonetheless, the headright system continued through the royal period as the basis for granting land in South Carolina.¹

This system for the transfer of land to individuals was intended to be an equitable one. Naturally, however, wealthier families with numerous servants and Negro slaves actually received a larger proportion of the colony's land. Furthermore, the headright system encouraged the importation of slaves to South Carolina, something the royal government had hoped to dissuade. Headright grants in South Carolina were frequently large;

grants of 500 to 1,000 acres to a single family were not unusual. The inclusion of slaves in the system lead to some abuses. A master could claim a headright on a slave, sell him or her, and then the new master could claim a headright on the same slave. In addition, headrights could be claimed on additional children born to a family, although claims were not reduced because of death (Ackerman, 1977: 95).

From South Carolina's earliest settlement a complex series of steps was required in order for colonists to obtain a grant or legal title to their lands. First, the settler had to appear before the colony's privy council and petition for a warrant of survey. The warrant normally commanded the surveyor general "to cause to be admeasured and layed out" for a particular person, a certain number of acres "soe as the same be not within the compass of any lands heretofore layd out or marked to be layd out for any other person or towne" (Salley and Olsberg, 1973). In the early years, the surveyor general himself usually completed the task. Later, when business was more than a single individual could handle, a precept was issued ordering a deputy surveyor to do the work. The land was then measured and marked out by the surveyor and a plat or map of the parcel was drawn indicating size, shape, and boundaries of the landholding, and often, type of land, certain landmarks, and even structures contained thereon. Two copies of the plat

were made, one was filed in the surveyor general's office and the other was given to the settler.² The settler was then responsible for taking his copy to the secretary who drafted a grant and, along with the plat, submitted the documents to the Council for final approval. When the Council confirmed the grant, it was sent to the surveyor general who certified it and recorded the plat in a bound volume; the secretary was responsible for recording the grant. This procedure gave the settler legal title to his land, but between the issuance of the warrant and the final recording of the grant, a number of events could occur: the settler could drop his claim, or sell the claim by virtue of a warrant, precept, or plat; the claim could become defunct; or someone else could be granted the land. Often, the land was held with no more than a warrant, or a warrant and plat of survey.

Prior to 1670 land could be held free, without socage, but thereafter a quitrent of "one halfe penny of lawful English money" per acre would be collected annually by officials in the colony (Shaftesbury Papers: 47). In 1682 the quitrent was increased to one penny per acre, but it was provided that those who did not wish to be encumbered by the annual rent could purchase land in fee simple for 50 pounds per 1,000 acres (Ackerman, 1977: 25). These laws changed often as the proprietors met opposition to the quitrents and collection of the tax remained a problem throughout the

proprietary and royal periods in South Carolina. Indeed, the tax likely encouraged settlers not to apply for grants to their lands--for without a grant, no record existed for collection of quitrents (Watson, 1976: 195-96). Needless to say, the issue of quitrents in the colony was extremely complex and confused primarily because of numerous changes in the rules and because landholders could easily escape compliance. In fact, Watson (1976: 201) shows that the percentage of total land granted on which quitrents were paid actually declined substantially from 37 percent in 1734 to only 19 percent in 1772. Again, many individuals held land merely by warrant, or more commonly by plat, thus making these documents exceedingly important to the settler.

In 1719 the colonists staged a revolution protesting in part the disorganized land system instituted by the proprietors. The land office was closed between September 1719 and November 1731. During this time no new grants were issued. Old warrants, however, were used as the legal means for occupying land, and large landholdings, especially those held by the nobility, were sold piecemeal to new immigrants. In fact, between 1720 and 1730, the colony's population increased from 21,000 to 30,000--the settlement process did not remain in suspension while the land office was closed (Clowse, 1973: 252).

In 1729, the proprietors sold their interests in the colony to the British Crown, and South Carolina continued under a royal government until the Revolution of 1776. Land policies issued during the royal period were simplified but remained essentially the same as they had evolved under the proprietary government. Evidence shows that the illegalities occurred often, and that all of the complex official land policies were not carried out as promulgated. It is essential to recognize, however, that policies existed to create a land *system*--not only relating to land tenure, but also pertaining to land surveying.

ENDNOTES

1. In 1751 a Bounty Act was passed that allowed settlers to take up lands free of fees, including survey fees. The bounty grants were commonly smaller than regular grants, but they were still provided according to the headright system.
2. This system was changed in 1685, when the proprietors realized that the certified plat "gives possession" to the land. Thereafter, surveyors were requested to submit both copies of the plat to the secretary until the settler had applied for his grant (Salley and Olsberg, 1973: xi). Throughout the colonial period, however, plats frequently contained the note, "the duplicate plat delivered to owner the same day." This statement suggests that some surveyors left a copy of their work with their patrons, so that the landowner retained proof of his survey.

CHAPTER 3

THE ARTISTS OF SURVEYING

There is little doubt that the office of surveyor general in the South Carolina colony was an important one. The proprietors ordered the appointment of a surveyor along with other officials in the first set of "Temporary Laws." A surveyor was especially necessary, even to the first arrivals, because all settlers were anxious to have their lands surveyed so that grants could be issued to them. In addition, the proprietors were determined to see that their intricate plans to survey the province be carried out efficiently and as soon as the first settlers began to arrive. Joseph Dalton, an early appointed representative for the colonists, most aptly described the need for a surveyor in a letter to Lord Ashley:

first...the lands in this Country lyes soe irregular that they must be squared by some skillful Artist to your Ldp directions, 2ndly such an Officer will satisfye all men in the bounds of their lands and soe prevent suits and differences, 3rdly he will strengthen and beautify the Country with those noble contrivances and that even ness proscribed

by your Ldp desire by all men, lastly and which I conceive to be a part of his duty to discover and examine all places about us or where the Lds Propr shall direct and designe them for such settlements as may be most agreeable with their contrivances by which meanes people when they doe arrive may be satisfied without much trouble or expense of time a thing too much in use in these parts and a ready way to create a disestime of the Country (Shaftesbury Papers: 381).

This statement proved to describe quite accurately the duties and expectations of surveyors throughout the colonial period in South Carolina. These men were considered an important and integral part of the colony's success. Not only were surveyors responsible for ordering an "irregular" landscape, but they were also expected through their work to provide a framework of information about the lands they traversed.

The Office of Surveyor General and the Men Who Served

The Proprietary Period, 1670-1729

The office of surveyor general was established in 1663 and remained an official position in South Carolina throughout the colonial period. In that year, the proprietors issued the first instructions regarding the granting of land. Within these instructions the duties of surveyor general were formulated and, although revised continually for the next 100 years, the

surveying procedure remained essentially fixed. After receiving a warrant from the Council, the surveyor general (or later a deputy surveyor) was responsible for the actual survey of the land and for drawing a plat of the property. Information from each survey, including the name of the grantee, the location of the land, and the boundaries of the tract were recorded by the surveyor general in a bound volume retained as an official document in his office. This last step insured against controversy in titles to land and represented a certificate to the secretary of the province that the survey had been done legally (Shaftesbury Papers: 47).

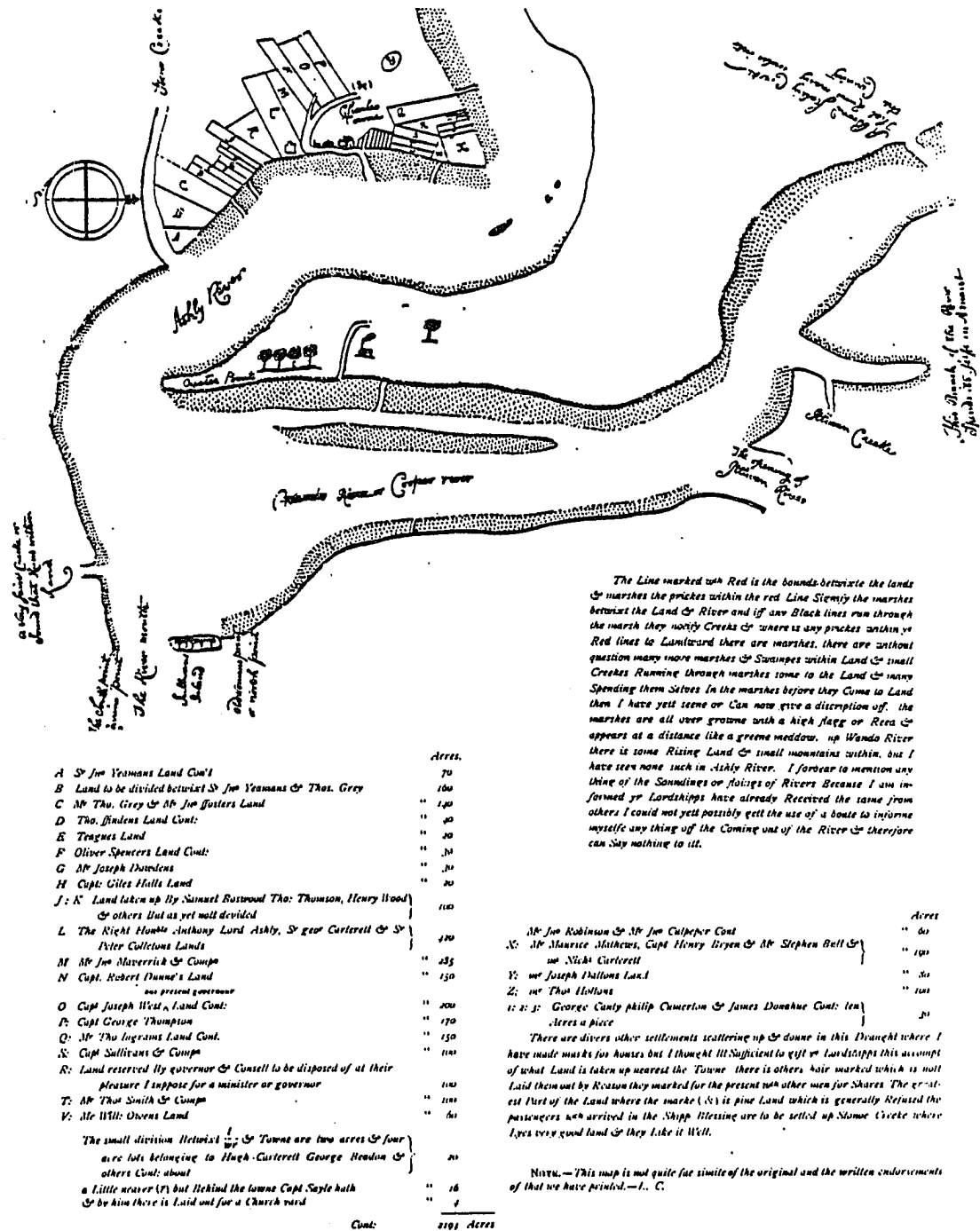
The earliest surveyor retained for work in the province was Florence O'Sullivan who served as surveyor general from 1670 to 1671.¹ O'Sullivan was an Irish soldier who served the British against the French in the West Indies in 1666, and who joined the original February 1670 expedition to South Carolina. He became a prominent official in the new colony, but his talents as a surveyor were dubious at best. Even as early as September 12, 1670, Stephen Bull described O'Sullivan as a "very dissencious troublesome man," making many errors in his surveys (Shaftesbury Papers: 195). Henry Brayne, in that same year, wrote of O'Sullivan: "all lands that he hath pretended to lay and run out is verie irregular" (Shaftesbury Papers: 215). In 1671, O'Sullivan was asked to share his duties as surveyor with John

Culpeper. But later that year, O'Sullivan was fired from his position altogether, and Culpeper became the colony's second surveyor general.

John Culpeper sailed to South Carolina with the second fleet from Barbados in 1671. It is not known if he had any training or experience in the surveying profession, but he was described as an "able Artist" and was actually addressed as "surveyor" by Governor West in a letter to the lords proprietors (Shaftesbury Papers: 285, 298). After the O'Sullivan fiasco, Culpeper set to work immediately and was responsible for mapping Charleston and its vicinity (Shaftesbury Papers: 332). He served as surveyor general with Stephen Bull as his deputy until July 1673, when he became involved in a rebellion plot against the provincial government and was forced to flee to Albemarle in the North Carolina colony.

Despite his political problems, Culpeper was recognized in the colony as a skillful surveyor. His 1671 draft map of Charleston, outlining the plantations and the land around the Ashley, Cooper, and Colleton Rivers, was probably the first detailed view of the area that the proprietors received (Figure 3-1).² A brief inscription on the map describes the type of land in the area and the location of settlements. In March 1673, Culpeper prepared a plat of the "Lords Proprietors' plantation" near Charleston. This plantation according to Culpeper's calculation contained 44.5 acres (Shaftesbury Papers:

FIGURE 3-1
A SKETCH OF CULPEPER'S DRAFT MAP OF CHARLESTON, 1671



Culpeper's draft map of Charleston was one of the first charts drawn showing the initial settlement in South Carolina. Note the survey of long lots along the Ashley River and its tributaries.

Source: Adapted from a reproduction of the original in Shaftesbury Papers.

421). Ostensibly, this plat also was sent to the proprietors in England.

After Culpeper's sudden departure from the colony, it is not clear if any one individual was appointed surveyor general. On July 7, 1673, three men, Stephen Bull, John Yeamans, and Stephen Wheelwright, were commissioned as "surveyors." All warrants previously issued to the surveyor general were to be executed by these three surveyors (Salley, 1907: 61-62).

Apparently the office remained unfilled until Maurice Mathews was commissioned as surveyor general in April 1677 (Records of the Secretary, 1675-1695 and 1703-1709: 54). Mathews proved to be a highly accomplished and skillful surveyor and explorer for the colony. A gentleman of wealth, Mathews came to South Carolina from England (via Barbados) in his own sloop with several servants in 1670. During his life in the colony, Mathews became an astute observer of South Carolina's physical geography. He wrote many letters describing his impressions and observations about the land, especially concerning the quality of various land types. His interest in such matters was apparent in correspondence to the proprietors and may have encouraged his appointment as deputy to two of them, namely Lord Ashley (Earl of Shaftesbury) and Lord Craven. Even prior to his appointment as surveyor general, Mathews was requested to lay out a seigniory of 12,000 acres for Lord Ashley, taking care to select "fruitfull healthy Land in the

most convenient place" (Shaftesbury Papers: 363).

The fact that Maurice Mathews was a well-known contemporary source of accurate information about the colony is supported by Gene Waddell in his account of Indians of the South Carolina Low Country, 1562-1751. Waddell suggests that Mathews likely supplied most of the information contained in Thomas Ashe's (1682) renowned promotional description of Carolina (Waddell, 1980: 401). Mathews is credited with authorship of a long letter written in May 1680 to an unknown correspondent (perhaps Ashe), in which he provides a detailed view of South Carolina. Waddell notes a striking comparison between this letter and Ashe's essay, suggesting that Ashe largely paraphrased Mathews's letter. Furthermore, Mathews is noted as the chief source of information in other contemporary descriptions of the colony (Waddell, 1980: 418).

There is no doubt that Mathews was one of the most active early explorers in South Carolina. His letters describe travels all around Charleston and as far inland as 200 miles up the Santee River by 1680 (Mathews, 1954: 155). Even after his tenure as surveyor general, Mathews remained active in his exploration of the colony. During 1690 and 1691 Mathews and James Moore, later governor of South Carolina, made an excursion into the Appalachian region. The purpose of the journey was to see what type of

country existed there, as well as to investigate further Indian trade, and to search for gold (Crane, 1929: 40-41).

Mathews was also recognized as an authority on Indians of South Carolina. He seemed to have developed an interest in the native inhabitants of the province almost immediately upon his arrival and became thoroughly acquainted with local Indian languages, customs, and territories. By 1672 Mathews had already developed such rapport with the Indians that one tribe chose him as chief (Waddell, 1980: 436). As an agent for Sir Peter Colleton, he was extensively involved in setting up the early Indian trade that was so important to the colony's nascent economy (see especially Clowse, 1971). During his time as surveyor general, Mathews was successful in negotiating the release of Indian titles to land extending south to the Savannah River and west almost to the Appalachian Mountains (Crane, 1929: 119). In June 1684 Mathews was dismissed as surveyor general because of his involvement in Indian slave trading (Salley, 1928: 290). He continued his role, however, as explorer and liason between colonial officials and various Indian tribes. In 1686 he was granted 1,000 acres by the Governor for his services in procuring additional land from the Indians (Salley, 1916: 72-73).

There is little available information regarding the operation of the office

of surveyor general and its activities during Mathews's appointment. Few plats for the period have survived. Numerous warrants issued during this period, however, show that Mathews employed several deputies to carry out the surveying (Salley and Olsberg, 1973). In May 1682 the proprietors issued elaborate instructions to Mathews regarding the survey of individual landholdings, as well as several counties (BPRO-SC, 1: 130-57). These detailed instructions mark the beginning of order in the activities of individual surveyors and show that specific rules were being established for the office of surveyor general.

Proprietary orders to survey the boundaries of several counties in the province probably were never fully carried out by Mathews. His dismissal as surveyor general in 1684 cut short his efforts, but Mathews at least may have started a systematic survey of the province. William Cumming, a recognized authority on early mapping in the colonial South, notes that Mathews likely supplied much of the information for Gascoyne's 1682 A New Map of the Country of Carolina (Cumming, 1958: 36).³ And, in 1685, Mathews, in concert with Gascoyne, prepared a manuscript map of South Carolina with his own name listed as author. Cumming states that this map was so detailed that "no other comparable area in the Carolinas was as carefully drawn before the middle of the following century" (Cumming, 1958:

162). In addition, the map served as an important type or base map for subsequent charts of South Carolina. Perhaps more significantly, however, Mathews's map repudiated many of the misrepresentations about the region that had been perpetuated by earlier cartographers. On the Mathews map, for example, rivers were correctly located and oriented, and the Appalachian Mountains were properly placed, thus dispelling misconceptions about the interior found on the Mercator-Hondius (1606), Lederer (1672), and Ogilby (1672) maps (Cumming, 1958: 31-37).⁴

Maurice Mathews was one of the most competent surveyor generals appointed during the proprietary period in South Carolina. He contributed toward a more exact and detailed view of the province; he is not noted for his skill and accuracy in surveying individual landholdings, but instead for his keen observations about the land and for providing an overall view of the geography of early South Carolina.

Following Mathews's dismissal, Stephen Bull stepped in again in 1685 to serve the office, this time as surveyor general (Shaftesbury Papers: 192N). Despite numerous changes in command, the activities of the surveyor general's office were of serious interest to the proprietors. In 1685 they issued oaths for the surveyor general and his deputies, an action suggesting that holding either position was not considered by colonial officials to be

casual or incidental (BPRO-SC, 2: 100-01).

There is scant information concerning the surveyor general's office during the remainder of the seventeenth century. Warrants issued throughout the mid 1680s were addressed to Stephen Bull as surveyor general until 1688-89 when he was listed as "the surveyor general's deputy" (Salley and Olsberg, 1973: 416-17). In December 1691, Colonel Philip Ludwell was appointed surveyor general of Carolina by Proprietor Sir Peter Colleton. (Salley, 1916: 43). But Ludwell also had been appointed governor of all of Carolina in November 1691. He arrived in Charleston in April 1692 and began personally to administer the southern part of Carolina, while an appointed deputy governed the northern part (Rogers, 1973: 12). The status of the office of surveyor general is difficult to determine after Ludwell's appointment. From 1692 to 1695 warrants were issued to a number of deputy surveyors, including Stephen Bull. Apparently, Bull did not wish to continue his responsibilities as surveyor general but was willing to act as deputy.⁵

In September 1695 John Beresford assumed the position of surveyor general of South Carolina (Records of the Secretary, 1675-1695 and 1703-1709: 456). Little is known of Beresford's qualifications for the appointment, but he was not noted as a skilled surveyor. He had been

involved in governmental affairs in the colony prior to 1695 and apparently had aided in the ouster of Governor James Colleton in December 1690 (Salley, 1916: 19, 22). From Beresford's appointment until the end of the proprietary period, the number of surveyor generals and the brevity of their tenures reflect the turmoil surrounding land policies in the colony. With but few exceptions, appointments to the office of surveyor general during this period had little to do with ability. Instead, political loyalty to the provincial governor and the proprietors seemed the greater impetus.

John Beresford was replaced as surveyor general by Captain Edmund Bellinger in March 1698. Bellinger's appointment as surveyor general lasted only four years when in June 1702 he was replaced by Job Howes (Salley, 1916: 159). Howes may have been the only man with practical surveying experience appointed surveyor general during this period. Warrants had been issued to him as a deputy surveyor as early as October 1689 (Salley and Olsberg, 1973: 426). Unfortunately, though, Howes was struck with a "distemper" and died sometime in early 1707. Thomas Broughton, commissioned in March 1707, succeeded Howes as surveyor general of the province. At the time of his appointment, Broughton was serving as deputy to Proprietor John Carteret, Earl of Granville, and later also was made deputy to Lord Colleton (Salley, 1916: 189, 195-96, 201).

In June 1711 the proprietors recommended that the office of surveyor general might be better executed by several surveyors, one for each of the counties (Salley, 1916: 245). There is no evidence that the Council and then Governor Charles Craven acted on this recommendation, although William Bull had been identified as surveyor general of Colleton County in 1696 (see endnote 5). In 1714, however, the proprietors sent a letter to Governor Craven regarding a petition submitted to them by Henroydah English. English had requested payment for a surveying job that had been completed by him and Thomas Broughton some two years earlier. The job involved the survey of 119,000 acres of land in two locations, one near Port Royal and the other near Winyaw Bay (Records of the Secretary, 1709-1725: 172). Given the large quantity of land and the vast distance between these two locations, it is feasible that English and Broughton were acting as surveyor generals for the separate regions. The proprietors' letter addressed only Broughton as (the late) surveyor general, but by March 1715 Henroydah English was receiving instructions and warrants as head of the office (BPRO-SC, 6: 71, 73).

By 1718 land policies in the province were exceedingly disorganized. In September the proprietors instructed the governor to grant no more land without their permission. Concurrently they commissioned Francis Yonge as surveyor general of the province. Yonge was ordered by the proprietors in

April 1719 to survey fifteen baronies near Port Royal, from lands gained through the expulsion of the Yemassee Indians in 1715 (BPRO-SC, 7: 158-60, 184). This action enraged the South Carolina colonists for these lands were to have been awarded to individual settlers. Yonge, acting as colonial agent, was sent to England to negotiate with proprietors and he commissioned William Blakeway in June 1719 to act as temporary surveyor general (Misc. Records, Book, N: 99). In September 1719 the proprietors, complaining of abuses in land grant policies, closed the South Carolina land office. Later in December the colonial assembly voted to disregard proprietary authority in South Carolina and in 1720 the crown accepted control of the province (Ackerman, 1977: 45).

Despite the closure of the land office surveyors were still needed. These men were especially important to those involved in land sales to new immigrants, to those claiming land on old patents or warrants, and to squatters attempting to hold land by virtue of a plat of survey, all hoping to obtain a grant when the office reopened. In fact, during the decade of the 1720s a total of 290, 236 acres were added to the colony's tax books (Ackerman, 1977: 53). Although the official land grant policies of the provincial government were in disarray by the early 1720s, the office of surveyor general, especially the activities of the deputies, had become

integral and routine to the functioning settlement of the colony. As evidenced by warrants issued in the late 1690s and early 1700s, the number of deputy surveyors steadily increased. In addition, plats surviving from this period indicate a wide range of locations in the colony in which surveyors were working. In June 1721 Francis Yonge was commissioned a second time as surveyor general and he apparently remained in command of the office throughout the decade (Council Journals, June 2, 1721).

The Royal Period, 1730-1776

As the British Crown assumed greater control of South Carolina, the 1730s ushered in a new style of government, but land surveying and granting procedures remained essentially the same. Perhaps the most significant factor affecting the surveyor general's office in the early part of this period was the development of a serious disagreement between the new governor, Robert Johnson, and the first royal surveyor general, James St. John. This controversy, political in nature, serves to illustrate how powerful and influential the office of surveyor general had become in directing the land policies of the colony.

James St. John had been sent from England in March 1731 with a commission from the Crown to serve as surveyor general. In addition to this

appointment, St. John was also named auditor general and comptroller of the quitrents, thereby expanding substantially the duties of the surveyor general (BPRO-SC, 15: 41-42; Misc. Records, Book I: 48). In short, St. John was not only responsible for administering the survey of public lands, but he was also charged with ensuring a "true and perfect rent roll."

St. John apparently took the responsibilities of his offices seriously. Almost immediately upon his arrival, he became an outspoken critic of the new Quit Rent Act, which Governor Johnson had urged the Crown to approve. Among the provisions of the act was one that allowed settlers to register claims on old proprietary patents, as long as the lands had been surveyed by a sworn surveyor. Johnson was especially interested in upholding the Quit Rent Act because his father, Sir Nathaniel Johnson, had been given a patent for 24,000 acres in 1686. Although this patent had been declared illegal, the Quit Rent Act would have reversed the decision (Smith, 1903: 36-37). James St. John, along with his newly appointed deputy surveyor general, Benjamin Whitaker, argued that not all the proprietary patents had been properly certified by an official of the colony, and they began a campaign to strike down the Quit Rent Act. Thus, a controversy was drawn between the two factions, one led by St. John and Whitaker, and the other headed by the Governor.

Although the problems between Johnson and St. John and their respective supporters were caused by their opposing views of the Quit Rent Act, the actual confrontation was initiated by St. John's plan to survey the newly ordered townships. The colonial assembly, in June 1730, had approved Governor Johnson's scheme establishing a system of townships to encourage frontier settlement in the colony. After a great deal of debate, a Township Fund was established to which the proceeds from duties on newly imported slaves would be paid (Meriwether, 1940: 17-22). This money was to be used to pay the survey and land grant fees for settlers of the townships, as well as to provide them with tools and supplies. In November 1731 the land office was officially reopened, and Johnson's plans were put into operation (Ackerman, 1977: 72).

The first order of business involved a survey of the townships, and the surveyor general was the most obvious person to administer this task. St. John had just begun to organize a survey of the townships when the Council ordered him and his deputies to suspend their work on the project. The reasons given for this action included the claim that St. John's fee of one penny per acre (plus deputy surveyor fees) was exorbitant and would bankrupt the treasury.⁶ In addition, the Council reasoned, as it was uncertain when settlers would arrive to inhabit the towns, it might be best

simply to fix the location of each township by noting the course and shape of the river that it would bound upon. Individual lots could then be surveyed later as settlers arrived because the surveyor's marks were so "perishable" that they would disappear if made while the land was uninhabited (Council Journals, Nov. 19, 1731).

This incident marked only the beginning of St. John's problems. In February 1732 charges of misconduct were brought against him by a committee of the assembly. Included in the allegations were charges that St. John gave preferential treatment to friends and that he allowed his deputies to survey outside their assigned districts (Council Journals, Feb. 26, 1732).

The latter charge seemed contrived since only two weeks earlier the assembly had recommended this very action to the governor, citing the hardships and expenses caused to settlers by the confinement of deputy surveyors (Council Journals, Feb. 12, 1732). James St. John had also been cited by the assembly for charging four pence per acre surveyed rather than the legal limit of one penny per acre (Council Journals, Jan. 28, 1732).

Because of these investigations of St. John, and because the assembly decided that the outside boundaries of the townships must be delimited to prevent others from encroaching on the lands, Council commissioned several of its members to mark out the townships for a fee of 500 pounds each (Council

Journals, Mar. 10, 1732). James St. John, while continuing to serve as surveyor general, was completely left out of this arrangement, although he protested that he had never been offered the same fee to mark out the townships (Council Journals, May 31, 1732).

St. John continued to be harassed by the colonial assembly. Members of the Council further investigated complaints that he had overcharged settlers for surveys. Furthermore, he was charged with appointing himself auditor general without the benefit of official sanction. Finally, James St. John was reprimanded for certifying plats that had been incorrectly surveyed (Council Journals, May 31, 1732).

Based upon the available evidence, many of the charges brought against St. John, up to this point, may have been contrived, or at best were trivial. He might have risen from the controversy unscathed, but in 1733 he joined Benjamin Whitaker and several others in an apparent illegal land grab just prior to the Board of Trade's recommendation that the Quit Rent Act be repealed. St. John and Whitaker were both imprisoned for their part in the scheme, and St. John remained in jail for three months until the Board of Trade ordered his release (Council Journals, May 11, 1733). He retained his position as surveyor general for another decade until his death in 1743, but he no longer was vocal about land policies in the colony (Council Journals,

Apr. 8, 1743).

Without a doubt, James St. John was the most controversial surveyor general in South Carolina's colonial history. The dispute surrounding him was confusing and complex. Historians investigating the matter have offered several different interpretations of blame and wrongful action. Meriwether (1940), for example, claims that St. John had designs on the Township Fund. Smith (1903) reasons to the contrary that Governor Johnson and members of the assembly who were in favor of the Quit Rent Act tried in all manner of ways to get rid of the surveyor general. Ackerman (1977) believes that both sides likely acted to preserve their own self interests. Nonetheless, this controversy did affect the surveyor general and the operation of the office. It especially called into focus the question of payment of fees to him and to his deputies. In addition, the controversy sparked debate over the duties of the surveyor general, namely, his dual role as auditor general and comptroller of the quitrents. Finally, the problems caused St. John by Governor Johnson and the colonial assembly elucidated the influence that the surveyor general exerted with the Crown in charting the course of land policies in the colony.

After St. John's death in April 1743, George Hunter assumed the office of surveyor general, as well as the offices of auditor general and comptroller

of the quitrents (Council Journals, Apr. 29, 1743). Hunter proved to be the most skilled and competent surveyor general of the royal period. He set about immediately to reorganize and systematize the functions of his office. His first petition to the Council concerned irregularities in the office under St. John. Hunter had discovered a large number of plats that had not been signed by St. John, although, he pointed out, the law required plats to be certified on the same day that they were brought to the office. He also presented to Council a detailed account of the office, describing the number of plats remaining without grants and the total amount of acreage they comprised. These lands, Hunter indicated, were costing the Crown quitrents, as they could not be surveyed for someone else. He suggested that his office print a notice in the South Carolina Gazette advertising the unclaimed plats. If the owners did not take out grants on these lands by the beginning of the following year (1744), Hunter advised that the lands could legitimately revert to the Crown (Council Journals, May 13, 1743; Aug. 24, 1743).

This was but one example of Hunter's exacting attitude concerning the enforcement of the rules and laws of his office. In several cases, he refused to certify plats because they had not been surveyed within the prescribed time limits (Council Journals, Nov. 19, 1747; Nov. 5, 1751). He was particularly careful to ensure that plats indicated the correct location of

lands surveyed and that the warrant and plat reported the same location. In one case, he refused to certify town lots until the streets bounding them had been named by the Council (Council Journals, May 5, 1748). Hunter's rigid enforcement of rules such as these was often softened through lenient action by the Council, which frequently ordered him to certify the plats in spite of his hesitancy.

George Hunter's tenure in the office marked the only time that the surveyor general was directly involved with shaping survey policies and techniques and with supervising the activities of individual deputy surveyors. In one case for example, Hunter petitioned the Council to allow land between the Santee and Black Rivers to be surveyed in oblong lots rather than squares in order to ensure an equal amount of good and poor quality land in each unit (Council Journals, May 2, 1749). At another time, Hunter issued detailed orders to his deputy, John Fairchild, concerning the resurvey of vacant lands around Congaree Fort. He was concerned that town lots could not be surveyed because the boundaries of the fort were unknown (Council Journals, Feb. 4, 1749). Hunter also strictly supervised the activities of his deputies. In one instance, he objected to the legality of a survey by Thomas Blythe because the deputy surveyor's deputation officially had ceased upon the death of James St. John (Council Journals, Apr. 2, 1751).

George Hunter also was involved with larger surveys of the colony. In April 1752 the Council requested that he draft a map of the Indian country. And, in April 1755, he was commissioned to direct the survey of the North Carolina-South Carolina boundary. He completed the survey of the Indian country, but apparently died before becoming involved in the second task (Council Journals, Apr. 23, 1752; Apr. 10, 1755).⁷

William De Brahm, who was at the same time serving as surveyor general of Georgia and a consultant to Governor James Oglethorpe concerning fortifications in South Carolina, was "recommended as a proper person for surveyor general" of the colony after Hunter's death (Council Journals, Aug. 12, 1755). De Brahm was commissioned on August 14, 1755, but his service in the office was only temporary as Egerton Leigh was given a royal appointment to the office on November 3, 1755. Exactly when Leigh assumed the duties of the office is unclear, because De Brahm was still addressed as surveyor general as late as February 1756 (Misc. Records, Book KK: 203, 402; Council Journals, Feb. 3, 1756). In May 1756, however, De Brahm left Charleston with Governor Oglethorpe on an excursion into Indian territory to scout a location for a frontier fort (De Vorse, 1971: 18-19). Leigh apparently took control of the office after De Brahm's departure.

De Brahm was noted by contemporaries and is hailed by modern

scholars as a skilled and accomplished cartographer and surveyor. In 1757 he published a map of South Carolina and part of Georgia, which has been described as "far superior to any cartographic work for the southern district that had gone before" (Cumming, 1958: 54). De Brahm later became surveyor general of the entire southern district of North America (for more detailed information on De Brahm, see De Vorsey, 1971).

Egerton Leigh proved to be merely another political appointee to the office of surveyor general. He was not a skilled surveyor, but he had been educated as a lawyer and was practicing law when he received the appointment. During his tenure in the office, Leigh also became a member of the Commons House of Assembly and the Council; a judge of the Charleston Vice-Admiralty Court; and attorney general for the colony (Calhoun and Weir, 1979). Obviously, surveying was only one of many tasks that occupied his time.

Notes and petitions in the Council Journals reveal that the organization of the surveyor general's office and the strict adherence to surveying rules that had characterized George Hunter's time in the office began to erode during Leigh's tenure. More complaints were made regarding the inaccuracy and negligence of deputy surveyors (Council Journals, Mar. 17, 1762, Apr. 17, 1764; May 1, 1764; July 26, 1765; Nov. 24, 1767). Those who did

become sloppy and lax represented only a small percentage, but through strict supervision, the surveyor general should have been able (as George Hunter did) to quell any controversy. In fact, with surveyor generals like Egerton Leigh, deputy surveyors were given a freer reign to do their work, and, in some cases, to cheat their patrons. The number of deputies employed at various times by the surveyor general's office during Leigh's term had grown to about 200 (Appendix II). A dedicated surveyor general would have needed all his energies to oversee such a large group.

The preceeding discussion brings up an additional point. As many surveyor generals were political appointees, deputy surveyors were the ones who actually shaped the settlement of the colony in accordance with officials rules and laws. Charged with mapping out individual parcels of land, it was they who organized settlement patterns according to their personal skills and experience. The pivitol role of deputy surveyors in the land settlement process became increasingly evident as South Carolina's population increased and surveyors were assigned specific districts in which to work.

On April 7, 1773, a temporary embargo was placed on the granting of lands in all royal colonies. All officers, including Egerton Leigh, were removed from office. Due to his loss of income from the colony, and to other problems that he had, Leigh decided to leave South Carolina for England in

June 1774 (Calhoun and Weir, 1969). Who, if anyone, assumed the office of surveyor general during the remainder of the royal period is unclear, but statutes for the period after the Revolution indicate that the office remained an official position until at least the end of the 1700s (Statutes, IV: 591-93; V : 126).

The Deputy Surveyors

Deputy surveyors were employed in South Carolina as early as 1671 to aid the surveyor general. In March of that year, John Culpeper was commissioned as deputy to Surveyor General Florence O'Sullivan, and he received a portion of O'Sullivan's fees to mark out all lands except town lots. As the demand for surveys increased, the surveyor general commonly issued survey precepts to deputies, permitting a deputy to do the surveying in place of the surveyor general. It cannot be determined exactly how many deputy surveyors were employed during the colonial period in South Carolina. Precepts or other orders to deputies have not survived and only occasionally was the deputy mentioned by name on a warrant.⁸ But, in 1685 a deputy surveyor's oath was drawn up, providing an indication that the number of deputies was growing.

As the work done by the surveyor general's office increased, the

position of deputy surveyor general was established. Benjamin Whitaker was the first person to fill the position with a commission in 1731 under Surveyor General James St. John. Thereafter, signatures on plats indicate that ten men served this position at various times throughout the remainder of the royal period (Appendix II). Exactly what duties the deputy surveyor general assumed is unclear, except that his name was frequently found on warrants and precepts in place of the surveyor general's signature.

In the early period of South Carolina's settlement, deputy surveyors did their work at any location in the province where there was a need. Settlement spread quickly, however, and surveyors probably chose to work in one general area, perhaps the area closest to their own plantations. At the beginning of the royal period surveyors were legally confined to work in one county. When the townships were established, individual surveyors were given exclusive rights to do all the surveys in an assigned area. Because a deputy surveyor normally controlled the complete survey of a large region, he had considerable impact on the settlement of that area. New colonists, who had little knowledge of the land for example, could be directed to a specific area in the surveyor's jurisdiction.

There is little evidence to reveal what type of training or skills qualified a man to become deputy surveyor in South Carolina. Normally the

deputations of these individuals stated simply that the surveyor general, "reposing special trust and confidence in you . . . in your knowledge skills and ability in the art of surveying . . . do make ordain nominate and appoint you . . . to be my true and lawfull Deputy Surveyor" (Misc. Records, Book DD: 18). One can assume, however, that deputy surveyors possessed some education, as their duties required the ability to read and write, and to use arithmetic and geometry. The South Carolina Gazette at various times carried notices from individuals advertising their willingness to teach surveying (e.g., May 19, 1733; Mar. 24, 1759; Jan. 5, 1769; Oct. 10, 1774). In one instance, the teacher, Benjamin Lord, was a practicing deputy surveyor. The profession, thus, appeared to be one for which some kind of training and education was required. In the early years of the proprietary period, men of social prominence and education did most of the surveying work for the colony. These men may also have taken apprentices. Issack Guerard, for example, was indentured to Maurice Mathews for eight years in order to learn "the sciences of surveying lands and all other mathematical mensurations . . . Arethmetick and keeping of accounts" (Records of the Register of the Province, 1675-1699, 1703-1709: 154-55). Later, surveying guidebooks and manuals became more accessible and it appears that instruction was widely available to anyone who wished to become a surveyor.

Sarah Hughes (1979) found that it was common in colonial Virginia for family dynasties to be built around the surveying profession. No evidence for this practice is revealed in the list of colonial surveyors for South Carolina (Appendix II). Furthermore, the surveying profession in Virginia supported many prominent members of the aristocratic colonial society. With the exception of the surveyor generals, this was not the case in South Carolina. Surveying did afford a generous salary, as well as access to knowledge about good quality land, and most surveyors occupied a respectable middle position in society. In addition, many served other official positions in their districts, such as juror, member of the commons house, and colonial agent to an absentee landowner or entrepreneur.

Surveying was most likely not a full time job for most deputy surveyors. Many of them owned land and were probably involved in making improvements on their property during much of the year. Sometimes the "Master" or teacher in an isolated backcountry community would serve as the surveyor (McCrady, 1899: 501). Land surveying was thus an occasional, if not seasonal, occupation for most surveyors. In South Carolina, however, surveying was usually administered by a commissioned deputy and was not commonly done by individual plantation owners.⁹

Deputy surveyors administered a variety of official tasks other than

land surveying. Many acted as scouts for Indian activity, and in this capacity they periodically sent reports to the Council (Council Journals, June 7, 1751). They also surveyed sites for forts and determined the locations of roads (Council Journals, Sept. 26, 1671; Feb. 4, 1749). Many became involved in the legal process of settling boundary disputes and dividing land fairly among heirs.

Summary

During the colonial period, sixteen men headed South Carolina's office of surveyor general; twelve during the proprietary period (1670-1729) and four during the royal period (1730-1776). Each man had varying degrees of experience and skill in surveying. Most were merely political appointees who had little impact on the actual survey of the province. Many simply managed the office, while leaving the surveying work to appointed deputies. Others took a broader view of their responsibilities and became explorers of the colony. Only a few were known to be trained surveyors or members of the surveying profession, but all probably had the basic education necessary to undertake a metes and bounds survey.

The functions of the office evolved from one of simply keeping track of lands granted to one of managing the land system of the colony. Surveyor

generals of the proprietary period worked with few deputies, but beginning in 1730 larger numbers of deputy surveyors were commissioned to serve a fast growing South Carolina population. By the end of the colonial period, the surveyor general's office was responsible for assuring that a complex set of surveying rules was followed by more than 200 deputies and that land was disposed of fairly and legally.

Deputy surveyors were especially important to actual settlement in the colony because they essentially directed the land distribution system in their appointed districts. The next chapter concentrates on the policies of surveying in the colony and on the work of surveyors as they influenced the creation of the cadastral landscape.

ENDNOTES

1. Robert de la Prairie was actually appointed the first surveyor general of Carolina in May 1663. In February 1664, however, de la Prairie was appointed surveyor general of New Jersey, and there is no evidence that he ever worked in South Carolina (Shaftesbury Papers: 380).
2. John Ogilby is noted as the author of the first lords proprietors' map of the province entitled A New Description of Carolina, dated 1672. John Locke is credited with supplying much of the information to Ogilby for the construction of this map (Cumming, 1966: 12-13.) It is suggested, however, that the details shown for the Charleston area likely were gleaned from Culpeper's 1671 map.
3. The Gasgoyne map became known as the second lords proprietors' map.
4. Maurice Mathews's map is entitled A Plat of the Province of Carolina in North America. A reproduction is on file in the map division of the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., and the original is retained by the British Museum, London, Add. MS. 5415, 24 (Cumming, 1958: 163).
5. To confuse matters even more, Stephen Bull is listed as the "surveyor general of Colleton County" on three warrants, all dated October 24, 1696. Each warrant was written for Landgrave Joseph Morton for a total of 1,000 acres. On subsequent warrants, mostly for locations in Colleton County, Bull is addressed merely as "surveyor" (Salley and Olsberg, 1973: 563-64).
6. This was, however, the legal limit that had been set by the assembly in 1685 (Statutes, I: 5).
7. Hunter's Map of the Cherokee Lands is on file at the South Carolina State Archives in Columbia.
8. A rough tally can be made from instances when the deputy's name was listed on warrants, on plats, or from deputy surveyors' commissions listed in the Miscellaneous Records. Appendix II is a compilation of these names.

9. This has been suggested by George Rogers (1970: 24) in his superb study of Georgetown County, South Carolina.

CHAPTER 4

LAYING OUT THE LAND

Land measuring techniques used by surveyors in South Carolina were as much the result of directives from colonial officials as they were a product of the evolution of surveying practices in England and in other British colonies. The proprietors and royal governors were determined to guide the settlement of the colony by issuing policies for surveying general grants or planting lots, towns, and town lots. When the townships were established in the 1730s, even more explicit instructions were issued for cadastral surveys within their jurisdictions. Techniques and instruments used by colonial surveyors reflected the need for simplicity and quick results, as well as the desire to impose some type of order on the land.

Within the structure of surveying policies and technology, several additional factors influenced the look of South Carolina's cadastral landscape. Individual surveyors carrying out the duties of their profession according to personal skills and experience were vitally important in implementing

official policies in the field. Ultimately, the freedom of settlers to choose the sites they wished to occupy was the final factor in determining the colony's cadastral pattern. A colonist's choice of land, however, was predicated upon a number of variables, including perceived quality and intended use of the land. Surveyors in South Carolina played an important role as land assayers in guiding a settler's preference for certain landholdings. Changing conceptions of land use, especially regarding swamp and marsh, was another factor affecting both the settler's choice of land and the surveying techniques used on such lands. This chapter focuses on these five factors: policies, instruments and techniques, the work of surveyors in the field, surveyors as land assayers, and changing conceptions of land use, as elements that influenced land sub-division and the resulting cadastral pattern in South Carolina.

Surveying Instruments: With Compass and Chain

By the time South Carolina was settled, surveying techniques were well established in Europe and in other American colonies. The magnetic compass was known and utilized in a variety of instruments and the plane table had been developed and was favored by English surveyors for its ease of use in drawing plats of small parcels of land. British surveyors commonly

employed the technique of triangulation, whereby one could enter an open area, set up his instruments, and quickly survey a piece of land without traversing the perimeter. Geometry and principles of trigonometry and logarithms were understood and used by English surveyors by the end of the seventeenth century.

The development and adoption of surveying instruments and techniques in Britain, however, did not mean necessarily that these items would automatically find their way to the Americas. Conditions in the New World colonies were quite different from those in England. Most land did not lie open in fields or meadows, and the legacy of long established boundaries did not exist in the colonies. American surveyors demanded simple and inexpensive instruments and techniques that permitted them to work quickly.

Another reason for the slow diffusion of surveying techniques to the colonies was the fact that the surveying as a profession developed slowly in Europe. British surveyors of the seventeenth century were responsible not only for "butting and bounding" the manor, but also for determining land type for a particular use and land quality or valuation for tax purposes. Often, acreage would simply be estimated, as the latter duties assumed greater importance (Darby, 1933; Taylor, 1947). Specific formal training for

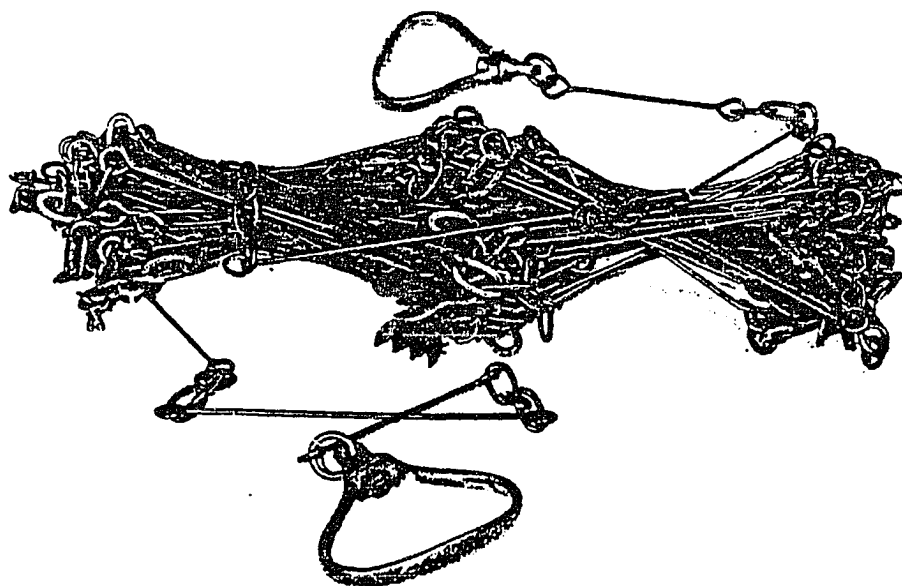
surveyors was virtually nonexistent in England throughout the 1600s and early 1700s. In fact, European surveyors usually possessed no more specialized training than a classical education and a knowledge of the legal system. Later, a fundamental understanding of mathematics became important. Most young men learned surveying by practical application or apprenticeship. In addition, beginning in the mid-seventeenth century, treatises and practical guides were published to aid surveyors in their work. The surveying guide book was a particularly important tool for colonial surveyors, and one English writer, John Love, directed his text toward the surveyor in America, whom he recognized as confronting difficult field conditions. In fact, Love had actually worked as a surveyor in Jamaica and North Carolina before compiling his surveying book. Love's text, entitled Geodaesia... (1688), was popular and well received through thirteen editions, the last two of which were published in the United States (Richeson, 1966: 126).

John Love outlined two basic problems of surveying, i.e., measuring distance and determining angles, upon which the instruments chosen by colonial surveyors were predicated. For calculating distance, he recommended either the Rathborne or Gunter chain, although the latter, developed in 1620, was preferred and used exclusively by English surveyors

at the end of the 1600s. Gunter's chain, 66 feet long, consisted of 100 links with every tenth link marked by a brass ring (Figure 4-1). This measuring instrument was based on the statute rod or perch of 16 1/2 feet as a unit of measurement. A statute acre of 160 rods or 4 square roods comprised 10 square chains. The beauty of Gunter's chain was the ease with which the device measured decimals. A unit of 100 acres, for example, could be measured as a square with 31 chains and 62 links on each side (Figure 4-2). One square mile, with 80 chains to each side, equaled 640 square acres. The benefit of using this system of measurement was that any area of square chains could be calculated into square acres, roods, or square rods. In addition, Gunter's chain, divided by equal units, could be read from either end.¹ Studies of land surveying in colonial Virginia and Pennsylvania indicate the use of Gunter's chain (J. B. Love, 1971 ; Hughes, 1978). Beginning with the earliest South Carolina surveys, plats show the use of the chain as a unit of measurement, and one can only assume that the surveyors used Gunter's.

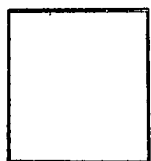
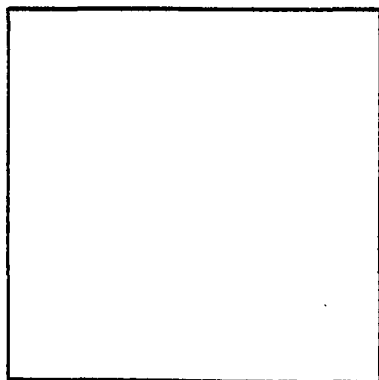
South Carolina's earliest surveys also indicate some means of measuring angles, as compass bearings are noted on virtually every plat. John Love pointed out that there were almost as many instruments for measuring angles as there were surveyors, but he preferred the plane table for small

FIGURE 4-1
GUNTER'S CHAIN



SOURCE: HUGHES, 1978: 32.

FIGURE 4-2

ACREAGE WITH CHAIN MEASUREMENTS: SOME EXAMPLES**1 ACRE** **3.16 Chains, 208.7 Feet, or 12.65 Rods Square****100 ACRES****31.62 Chains Square****640 ACRES****1 Mile or 80 Chains Square**

tracts of land and the semicircle, circumferentor, and theodolite for large acreages. For surveying in thick woods (as in America), Love especially recommended the circumferentor.

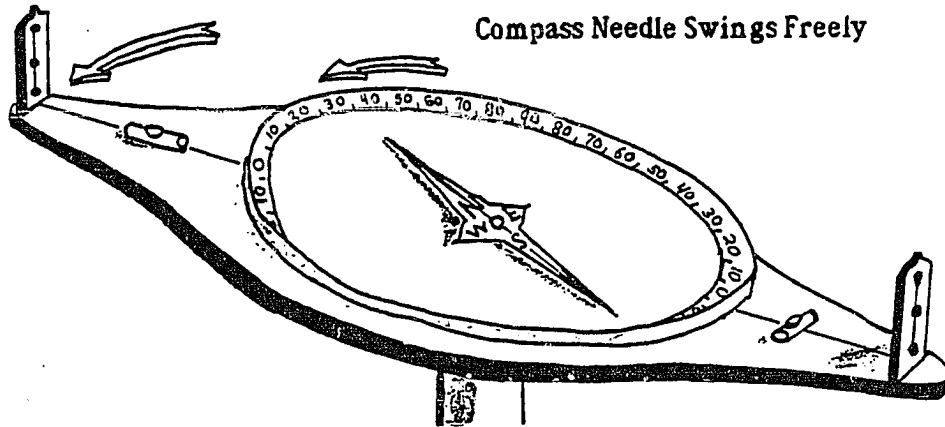
The semicircle (also known as a theodolitus), and the circumferentor were actually variations of the same instrument (Figure 4-3). The circumferentor consisted of a metal ring mounted around a basic magnetic compass, with the sights or index fixed to the instrument. The angle was read from a wandering needle in the compass box. On the semicircle the sights were mobile around the metal ring, and angles could be determined with or without using the compass needle, which remained fixed over the North-South axis. In using the semicircle, however, the surveyor was required to align the sights with the compass needle to determine a meridian line before leaving the field (Richeson, 1966: 93-94; Hughes, 1978: 31). On both instruments, the metal ring was divided into degrees, but the circumferentor's compass card was marked off in 90 degree quadrants. Love did not explain why he preferred the circumferentor, though he did mention the colonial surveyor's dependence upon the use of the compass (Love, 1688: 59).

With the circumferentor, the angle at each corner of a tract of land was measured from a North-South base line. The surveyor simply took a compass bearing from the first corner, then traversed the first side,

FIGURE 4-3

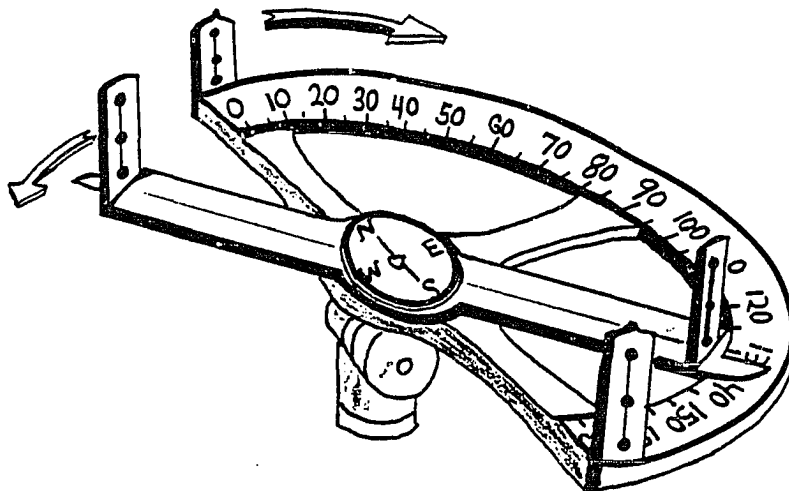
SURVEYOR'S ANGLE-MEASURING INSTRUMENTS

Sights And Quadrant Dial Are Attached
Compass Needle Swings Freely



IDEALIZED SKETCH OF A CIRCUMFERENTOR

Inner Pair Of Sights Can Move Independently
Of The Outer Pair Of Sights



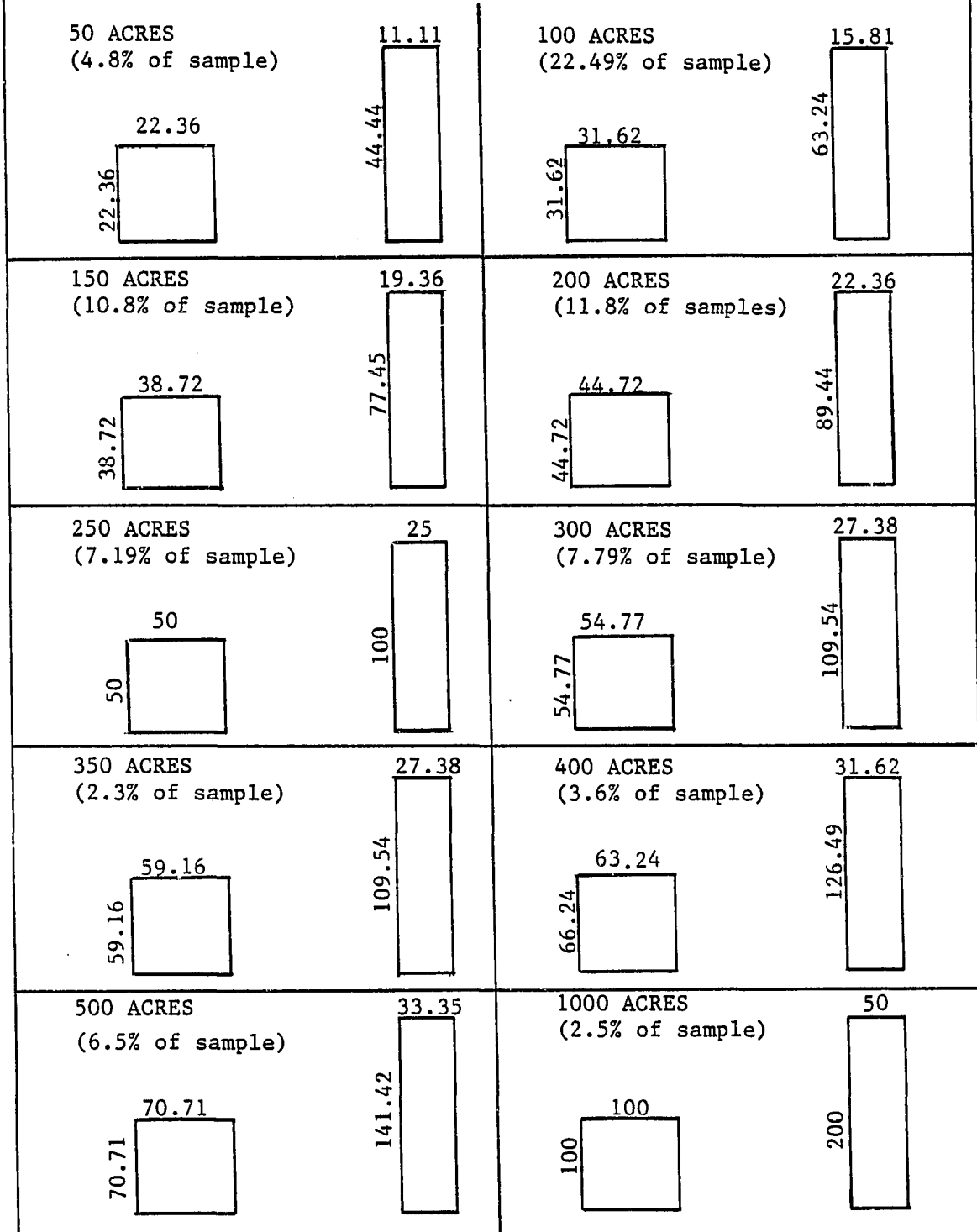
IDEALIZED SKETCH OF A SEMI-CIRCLE

measuring each length between line markers (trees, stakes, etc.), and sighting backwards at each marker to assure the same angle. This procedure continued from each corner until the tract of land had been completely enclosed. Love cautioned against exclusive reliance on the magnetic compass because of annual fluctuations of magnetic North, as well as problems associated with locations near iron deposits. He recommended the use of the semicircle wherever possible, but conceded that "in the thick Woods of Jamaica and Carolina, &C." the use of the compass is a necessity (Love, 1688: 59).

To determine area, Love suggested dividing the figure into right triangles and rectangles in order to make the computation without the use of trigonometry. He also discussed area calculation with the use of Gunter's chain (Love, 1688). Most of the surveys done in South Carolina from 1670 to the mid 1700s were regularly shaped, that is, square or oblong. Thus, the surveyor likely had in mind the exact dimensions encompassing a specific acreage before he began the survey (Figure 4-4). Only later, when re-surveys became important, or when tracts of land were surveyed between non-contiguous parcels of land, did surveyors employ more elaborate mathematical techniques to determine area.

The theodolite mentioned by Love, is likely the topographical

FIGURE 4-4
COMMON ACREAGES OF GRANTS IN SOUTH CAROLINA
WITH CHAIN MEASUREMENTS FOR SQUARE AND OBLONG TRACTS



instrument first described by Leonard Digges in 1571. This instrument was capable of determining vertical as well as horizontal angles by combining the theodolitus and vertical semicircle. Presumably, the instrument was used to determine the superficial or surface area of land rather than the plan area, and Love cautioned surveyors to take care in calculating areas of hills and valleys. Both Hughes (1978) and J. B. Love (1971) point out, however, that the theodolite was little used in America until the late 1700s. Furthermore, William Garnier, a self-taught surveyor who wrote The Practical Surveyor in 1737, argued against using the superficial area of hills and valleys (Richeson, 1966: 153-54). There is no evidence that South Carolina colonial surveyors used the theodolite or that they were concerned with figuring the superficial area of land.

Although very popular in England at the time, the plane table was little used in the colonies. This instrument was especially useful for surveying small tracts of land by means of triangulation, a technique that produced a survey without the surveyor's having to traverse the perimeter of the property. But in order to employ triangulation, the surveyor had to be able to view all corners of the tract. In America most grants were quite large and the land heavily wooded, thus use of the plane table and triangulation method was seldom feasible.

Surveying instruments used in colonial America did not generally employ a telescope. The telescope had been invented in 1608, but its practical application as a surveying tool, even in England, was not done until the latter half of the eighteenth century (Richeson, 1966: 164-65).

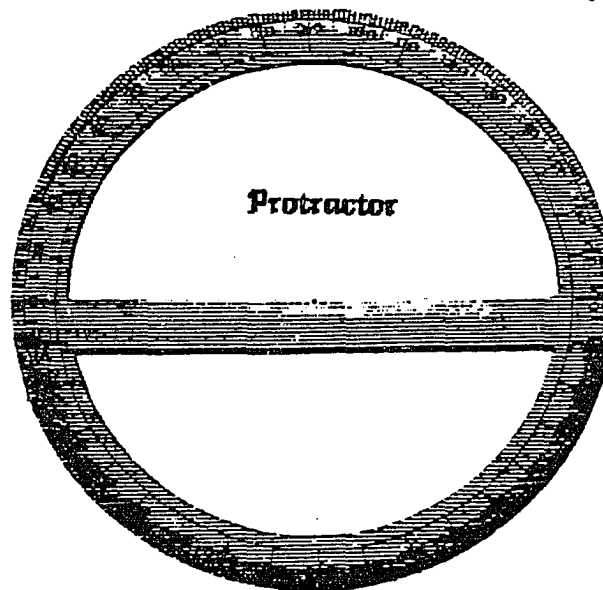
From South Carolina's earliest settlement, surveyors were required to draw plats of the lands they laid out, ideally to represent a map of the property. They commonly were drawn to scale and contained a lot of information. Normally, a protractor was used to plot angles on the plat and some type of ruled scale was used to draw the lines in the correct proportion. Edmund Gunter (circa 1620) developed a scale to accompany the use of his chain. This scale, usually two feet long and commonly made of brass, wood, or ivory, was inscribed with a line of equally spaced numbers, as well as a logarithmic line of numbers and a logarithmic line of tangents and sines. It was similar to a modern slide-rule, except that a pair of proportional compasses was used to read it (Figure 4-5). Gunter's scale had long been used by navigators, and Hughes (1978: 3) documents its use in Virginia by the end of the seventeenth century.

It is evident that South Carolina surveyors used at least some of these platting instruments. Scales often were drawn directly on the plat, with a number of different proportions used. In the proprietary period, surveyors

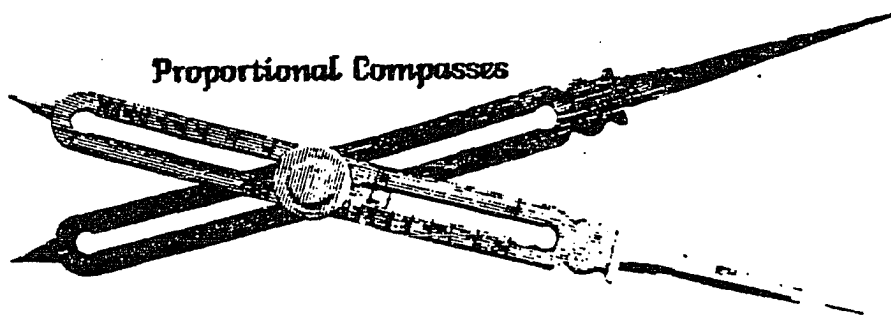
FIGURE 4-5
SURVEYOR'S PLATTING INSTRUMENTS



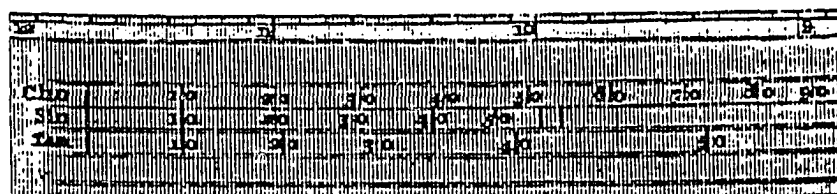
Plotting Scales



Protractor



Proportional Compasses



Gunter's Scale

SOURCE: HUGHES, 1978: 33.

used proportions from 10 chains to an inch to 99 chains to an inch. Procedures were standardized by the end of the 1730s, and the most common scale employed was 20 chains to an inch, especially for areas up to 500 acres. In fact, one item in a 1785 set of instructions to deputy surveyors states that plats of 100 acres or less should use a scale of 10 chains to an inch, those above 100 but less than 500 acres should use a scale of 20 chains to an inch, and those above 500 acres should use a scale of 40 chains to an inch (Statutes, IV: 766). This instruction was followed by the early surveyors as indicated by scales found on the sample plats. Often, the surveyor also drew a north arrow or compass rose on the plat.

Official Policies for Cadastral Surveying

General Surveying Policies

Cadastral surveying policies that evolved in South Carolina reflected the notion that land surveying could be orderly, even though colonists insisted upon settling land of their choice in non-contiguous plots. Colonial officials did not limit their instructions to the survey of political units (counties, townships, etc.) within the province, they also extended their authority to surveying practices for individual landholding. Their directives did not recommend the specific technical method that surveyors should use,

but they focused instead on the size, shape, and the general location of individual parcels of land.

The proprietors were particularly adamant that everyone in the colony have equal access to water courses. Included in their instructions to Governor Sayle (1669) was a rule prohibiting anyone from claiming frontage on a river of more than one-fifth the depth of his tract (Shaftesbury Papers: 117). This ratio was changed several times (to one-fourth and to one-sixth), but finally was standardized in 1732 at the beginning of the royal period to "one fourth Front and on the said River" (Misc. Records, Book DD: 72), (Figure 4-6). This system was akin to riverine long-lot surveys found in Canada, Louisiana, and Texas, all of which are traced to a French origin, (Jordan, 1974).

In 1682 the proprietors sent extensive instructions to Surveyor General Maurice Mathews, whom they hoped would have the counties "set out & devided into squares," so that they could come as near as possible to the form of government as issued in their Fundamental Constitution (BPRO-SC, 1: 130). The directive included not only explicit instructions on where boundary lines for the counties should be drawn, but other equally precise survey instructions for individual parcels of land. Again, many of these rules applied to land taken up along rivers:

Item 6. Any man...there hath Right to 12,000 Akers of Land and will take it up altogether in one pce...may have as much front to a Navigable River as his Land is in depth from the River. Any haveing Right to any quantity of land under Twelve Thousand Akers may have as much fronting to a navigable River as the qt of his land will beare wth the two side lines of sd Land running in 346 Chaine² in Length from the River in straight paralell Lines so that the Bredth of his Land in from the River may be all alongst it Equall in bredth to that part of it on the River.

Item 7. Any man yt shall take up his land on a Creek navigable only for boats or small vessells may have a sixth part of the Depth of his Land & no more fronting to the Creeke.

Item 8. If two navigable Rivers be so neare together yt the Distance is not sufficient to have the side Lines Runn in 346 Chaine from each River then if they are above 346 Chaine as under the side lines are to Runn no further then the midle between said Rivers but if they are not above 346 Chaine as under the side lines of Land taken up in such part of them as so neare together may Runn from River to River.

Another rule applied to the shape of landholdings other than those along navigable rivers:

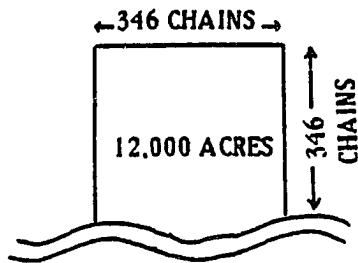
Item 9. Any man that takes up land 346 Chaine from a navigable River or above ye head lines of Lands taken upon Creeks may take up his Land in an exact square.

The proprietors also sought to ensure that no land was wasted due to its small and presumably unprofitable size:

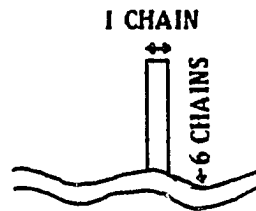
Item 10. If any mans line that takes up his Land above 346 Chaine in from a Navigable River be not Continguous to another mans Line it shall not Come nearer then 20 chaine that soe the space between line & line may not be to Little for plantation & be thereby lost to the proprietors.
(BPRO-SC, l: 134), (Figure 4-7).

Many of the policies structured by the proprietors were continued by surveyor generals in the royal period, especially those relating to lands along navigable rivers. Such rules undoubtedly provided the surveyor unique status, as he was the arbiter of whether or not a river was navigable. The rule of English common law stating that "no river is to be considered navigable except where the tide ebbs and flows," was not applicable to South Carolina (Cooper, 1854: 65). Instead, a river was considered navigable unless "the natural obstructions . . . prevent the passage of boats of any description what ever" (Cooper, 1854: 65). The surveyors' authority was extended further in 1739 by instructions to Governor Glenn that concluded an order to have them "take care in proportioning the profitable and unprofitable land in each grant" (BPRO-SC, 20: 128). Deputy surveyors were then required to take into account the quality of the land in their surveys

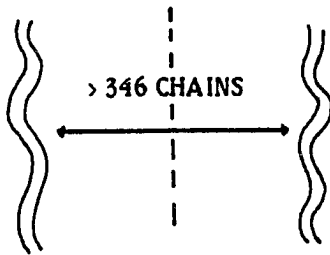
FIGURE 4-7

RULES FOR SURVEYING LAND IN RELATION TO RIVERS, 1682

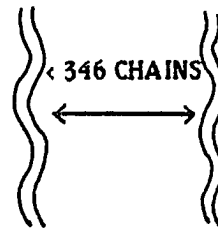
Item 6: If a grant consists of 12,000 acres, a riverine landholding comprising 364 chains square may be taken.



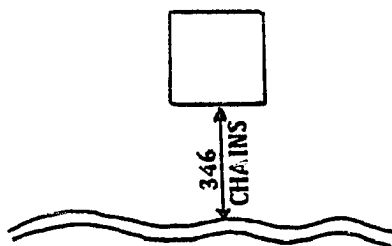
Item 7: A landholding located on a navigable river or creek must extend six chains inland for every one chain fronting on the water.



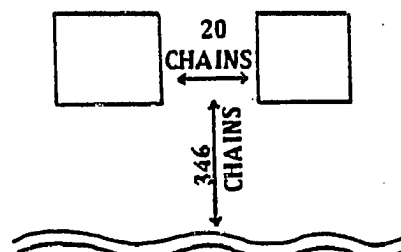
Item 8: If the space between two rivers is greater than 346 chains, a landholding may extend only to the midpoint between the water bodies.



Item 8 (cont.): If the space between two rivers is less than 346 chains, a landholding may extend from water body to the other.



Item 9: All tracts located more than 346 chains inland from a navigable river must be surveyed in an exact square.



Item 10: All noncontiguous tracts located more than 346 chains from a navigable river must be separated from neighboring tracts by at least 20 chains.

(Misc. Records, Book LL: 353). This judgment, at least in part, would have been based on the experiences of the surveyors.

Beginning with the tenure of James St. John as surveyor general, instructions "in common form": were issued to each deputy surveyor at the time they took the oath of office. The instructions issued to George Haig identify specifically the duties and responsibilities of the surveyor and illustrate the evolution of surveying practices during the initial 60 years of settlement in South Carolina:

**Instructions to George Haig Deputy Surveyor of
the Province of South Carolina**

- 1 You shall survey no land or lands whatsoever without the warrant from his Excellency ...unto my precept.
- 2 You shall take care that all lands to be taken upon navigable rivers only have one fourth fronting on the said rivers and inland tracts to be taken square if bounding lines do not prevent.
- 3 You shall take care that in all surveys to be made you shall go round the same leaving no side unmarked except impassable swamps marshes or waters do interrupt or prevent the same and shall mark the corner trees station trees and line trees which you shall faithfully insert in the plats and shall set down the course and distance they may be from any tree that they may be so recorded you shall insert the same faithfully and truly in the said plat so by your survey and shall blaze a sufficient number of trees in the said lines.

4 You shall not survey any lands that you shall take upon your account but the same shall be actually surveyed and certified by another lawfull deputy (Misc. Records, Book DD: 18-19).

Although these instructions formed the basis for surveying practices throughout the royal period, important additions and refinements were made. One included the order that deputy surveyors reside in their assigned survey precincts, and that they not survey lands outside the boundaries of their specified districts (Misc. Records, Book DD: 71). After it was determined that some surveyors were marking only two lines of a landholding and then protracting the other two sides, the surveyor general specifically ordered that the corner trees or stakes be blazed three times. Corner trees from a previous survey, which were to be included in a new survey, were to be double-marked (Misc. Records, Book FF: 11).

As settlement spread into the middle country of South Carolina, surveys along waterways presented continual problems. If a water body could be deemed unnavigable, then there were no restrictions regarding claims to frontage on it. In March 1751 and again in May 1751, Council ordered George Hunter to instruct his deputy surveyors to certify, on the backs of their plats, whether a river was navigable or not, according to their own judgment (Council Journals, Mar. 5, 1751; May 6, 1751). Because judgments varied, however, this nebulous instruction did little to clarify the task.

Finally, in April 1764, Council warned that it would not certify any plats for land through which there was river or creek "of constant running water of above the breadth of ten feet or above the depth of one foot" (Council Journals, Apr. 17, 1764). Rivers that did not meet these specifications "did not deserve the name of river" (Council Journals, Apr. 17, 1764). In 1768, the definition of river was revised to "a stream of constant running water nine feet wide and twelve inches deep" (Misc. Records, Book NN: 99). This standard finally provided a quantifiable definition of a river, but before this time, the judgment had been left to the surveyor. Apparently serious about these rules, Council followed up on its warning by not passing grants on plats where the surveyor neglected to note the depth and breadth of rivers (Council Journals, May 1, 1764).

In January 1767 deputy surveyors were instructed to lay out land such that the length of a tract extended inland rather than along the banks of any river, so that each settler could "have a convenient share of what accomodation the said river may afford for navigation or otherwise" (Misc. Records, Book MM: (557). This directive illustrates the concern over the equitable use of rivers of any size, navigable or not. By this date in South Carolina, water bodies had become important for a variety of uses including mill sites and sources of irrigation water in rice cultivation. In the same

instruction, Council repeated the rule that inland tracts should be surveyed in "geometrical" squares unless prevented so by old survey lines. In the event that a square could not be surveyed, surveyors were instructed to lay out new tracts beginning at old survey lines and extending into vacant land, rather than the reverse. This rule reveals an attempt to create a more compact settlement, and perhaps to alleviate disputes over surveys of land between non-contiguous landholdings.

The proprietors and royal governors issued very few directives concerning the location of individual landholdings. All concerned with planning the initial settlement hoped that the first colonists would "keep as neers together as we could, for the better security of this place" (Shaftesbury Papers: 284). But, colonial officials informed the proprietors as early as March 1671, that "we find that if they [the colonists] be not suffered to choose their own conveniencyes, may prove a great retarding of a speedy peopling this Country . . . some delighting to be near the sea, and others from it" (Shaftesbury Papers: 284-85). Further, they explained that the land was so interwoven with creeks and marshes, and irregular points, that the joining of one survey line to another would not be possible (Shaftesbury Paper: 284). Early colonists were warned, however, not to take up lands within two and a half miles from any Indian town, presumably for defense

purposes. When the townships were established under Johnson's administration, colonists were not permitted to occupy lands within a six mile radius of their boundaries (Shaftesbury Papers: 120; Council Journals, Nov. 19, 1731). Thus, with only these few exceptions, South Carolina settlers were permitted to choose the location of their land throughout the colonial period.

Survey Policies for Towns

The proprietors constantly issued orders to have towns established and in addition to the general surveying rules already mentioned, more precise instructions were issued for laying out towns and town lots. After learning more about their province, the proprietors frequently suggested locations for towns. They were especially interested in the establishment of port towns. In a letter to Governor John Yeamans, shortly after the first fleet arrived in South Carolina, Lord Ashley provided the following explicit instructions regarding the survey of the first town:

It is necessary that you lay out the great Port Town into regular streets for be the buildings never so meane and thin at first yet as the Town increases in Riches and People the voyde spaces will be filled up and the buildings will grow more beautifull If you designe six score squares of 300 foot each to be divided one from another by streets and Alleys it will be a good Proportion of a Town,

and let noe man have above one of those Squares
to one house . . . your great street cannot be lesse
then one hundred or six score broad your lesser
streets none under 60, you Alleys 8. or 10. foote.
(Shaftesbury Papers: 343).

In addition to these instructions, Lord Ashley ordered that a palisade and a ditch be established around each town as a defense against Indians. To add beauty and security to the place, he ordered that common be left around the town so that no enclosure may come nearer than three miles to the palisade (Shaftesbury Papers: 344).

In December 1671 the surveyor general received instructions regarding the development of survey plans for a "modell town." This model town was to be surveyed into one-half acre squares, allowing 80 feet by the waterside for a wharf or public landing and streets. Houses built in the town were to be at least 25 feet long and 25 feet broad (Council Journals, Dec. 30, 1671). In an earlier directive, the Proprietors ordered that "Freeholders shall draw a lott or chance where his land shall be" in towns (Council Journals, Sept. 5, 1671). This practice was to be continued in the model towns. Apparently, at least Charles Town was surveyed according to a model town plan, because in 1675, Council was allowing grants based on lots "as specified in the modell formerly sett out for the regular building of Charles Town" (Shaftesbury Papers: 473).

Survey Policies for the Townships³

Settlement of the townships was well underway by the mid 1730s, and in order to control the granting of lands in these areas, new rules regarding the surveying of the townships were developed by colonial officials.

According to Governor Johnson's orders, the townships were to be located sixty miles from Charles Town, with each sited on a river: two each on the Altamaha, Savannah, and Santee; and one each on the Pon Pon, Wateree, Black, Peedee, and Waccamaw (Meriwether, 1940: 20). In 1735, the Council provided a set of regulations pertaining to the "figuring and marking of titles of the several lotts and parcels of land within the Townships" (Council Journals, Aug. 19, 1735). The following provisions have been abstracted from this meeting of the Council, as well as from other sources as noted:

Deputy surveyors were required to make two parchment plats of the towns and townships they surveyed, one copy to be retained in the secretary's office and the other in the surveyor general's office. Each deputy surveyor was given exclusive rights to survey landholdings in their appointed townships.

Each township was to contain 20,000 acres. A town of 500 acres was to be laid out in large streets of one chain wide and divided into half acre lots, except Purrysburg, which had already been surveyed into whole acre lots. A square of four acres was to be surveyed in the center of each town, with one acre reserved for a church yard. A glebe of 100 acres was to be laid out at the end of each town.

Each settler was entitled to a half acre town lot and a planting lot, the size determined by his family headright. Township headrights were at first limited to 640 acres, but later Council was permitted to grant larger headrights at its discretion (Ackerman, 1977: 64).

Deputy surveyors were instructed to survey and mark out each person's land in the township in straight parallel lines. These landholdings were then to be delineated on the township plats contained in the surveyor general's office. Certificates for the landholdings were issued by the surveyor general and sent to the secretary's office so that grants could be affixed to them. The certificates were copied by the secretary into a bound volume as a record of the procedure. (This procedure varied from the earlier method by which settlers gained title to their lands. In this case, the deputy surveyor was responsible for returning plats to surveyor general's office for certification. Previously, this step had been the responsibility of the grantee.)

Settlers were allowed to choose their land, but the Council devised a lottery system for distributing these lands so as to prevent disputes and to keep settlement as compact as possible. When the deputy surveyor received several warrants, he was instructed to have all persons mentioned in the warrants draw numbers that he had written on slips of paper. Each person would have his lands surveyed in turn according to the number he had drawn. The lots were to be contiguous, but if it was discovered that settler received land that proved to be "barren or unprofitable," he was permitted to make a new choice, after the others of his group had chosen their lands, and before the next group's land was surveyed (Council Journals, Aug. 19, 1735).

As more people came to settle townships throughout the early 1730s, the governor and Council continued to refine regulations pertaining to the survey and granting of lands in these frontier areas. For example, in February 1736, Colonel Fenwick, head of a committee appointed to consider the proper methods for settling the townships, made a report to the Council regarding this issue. Fenwick reported that the committee was especially concerned that settlers were having their lands surveyed in several tracts (a split-warrant), "in any shape that the owner thinks proper" in order to obtain the best quality land. To "remedy such evils," Fenwick suggested that warrants should not be split, and that parcels should be surveyed in one square tract, so as to include an equal proportion of profitable and unprofitable land in each landholding. In addition, Fenwick suggested that only new settlers be permitted take up land in the townships. He also felt that deputy surveyors should sketch a settler's town lot and planting lot on the same plat, so that they could be certified at the same time. Council approved these suggestions and ordered that a copy of the report be sent to the surveyor general for his execution (Council Journals, Feb. 26, 1736).

The official policies guiding surveyors during the colonial period in South Carolina were developed under the proprietors and were continued with few changes by the royal government. They were, however, frequently

revised and refined as settlement advanced northward into the frontier. As the quality of land and character of the topography changed toward the interior of the province, surveying policies were altered to better deal with changing physical conditions. But surveying policies consistently reflected a desire for the regular and systematic partitioning of the landscape according to the conceptions of those regulating the land system.

Into the Field: Creating a Squared Landscape

The policies established by provincial officials and the development and feasibility of surveying techniques and instruments provided the basis upon which the surveyor conducted his business. Despite these legal and technical guidelines, the most important tools that the surveyor took into the field were his own experience and skill.

Conducting The Metes and Bounds Survey

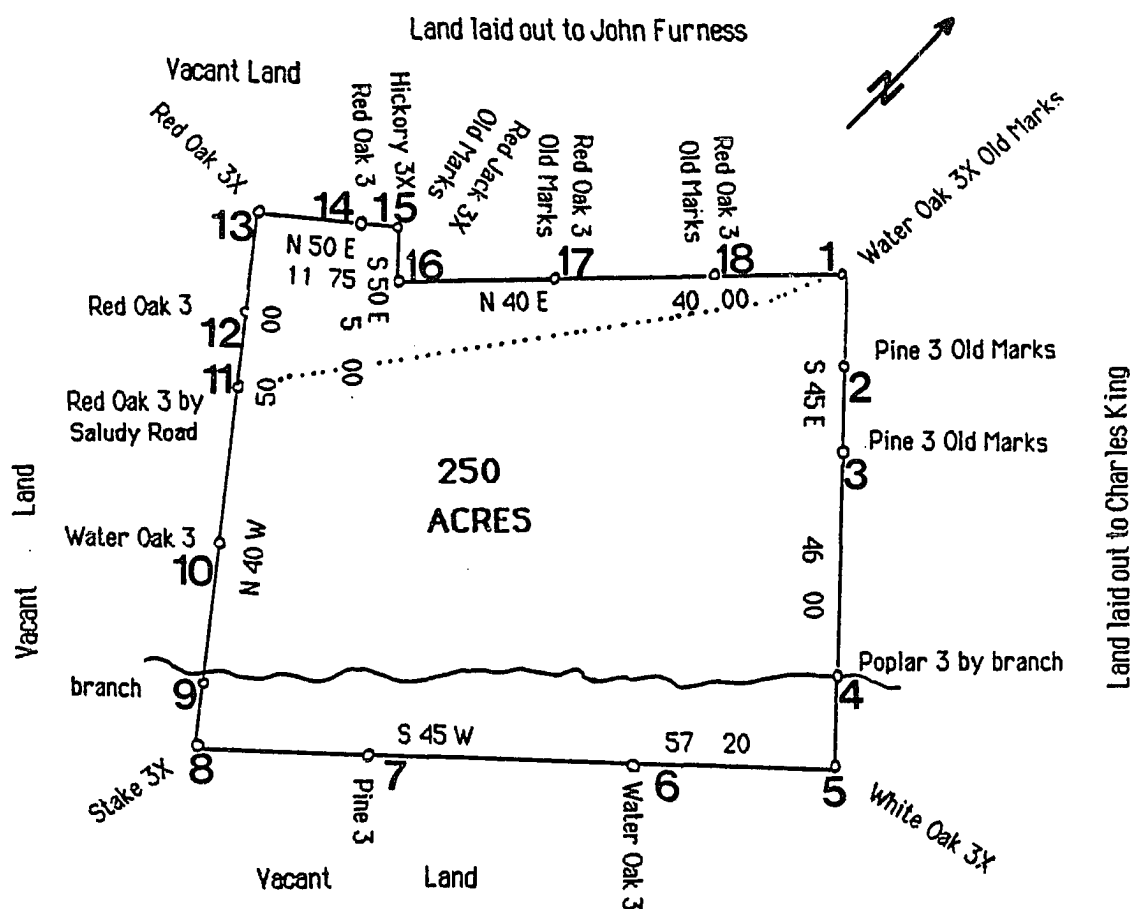
Upon receipt of a precept from the surveyor general, a deputy surveyor was solely responsible for laying out the land of a settler's choice according to the acreage specified in the warrant. Surveyors in South Carolina accomplished their work with a compass or circumferentor mounted on a staff or tripod, and a chain, and they commonly employed one or two

persons as chain bearers. Analyses of colonial plats indicate that the traverse method was used exclusively in cadastral surveys. With this technique, a compass bearing was taken at each corner, and the lines of a specific length were measured with the chain all around to complete the perimeter of the landholding (Figure 4-8).

Technically, this type of survey is referred to as metes and bounds because the only reference for the lines drawn on the landscape are items that the surveyor chooses to use as markers or monuments. Much of the area settled by South Carolina colonists was heavily forested, and it was common for surveyors to use trees as line markers. An analysis of the sample plats indicates no preference for type of tree used; evergreen (predominantly pines) and deciduous (predominantly oaks, hickory and, gum) were employed at equal rates. Surveyors were instructed "to blaze" the trees used as markers, with corner trees marked differently from station or line trees. On the plats, corner trees are commonly indicated with the notation "3x," and occasionally line trees also are shown with a number (usually "3") after the name of the tree. No records from the colonial period exist to explain what these marks were supposed to represent, although a set of instructions for deputy surveyors, dated 1785, offers a plausible explanation. According to instruction number two, surveyors were told to

FIGURE 4-8

AN EXAMPLE OF THE TRAVERSE TECHNIQUE IN METES AND BOUNDS SURVEYING



The bold numbers indicate the order in which the surveyor likely marked the boundary of this landholding. From station 1, he would have sighted S45°E with the compass, continuing on this course for a distance of 46 chains to station 5. From station 5 to station 8 he would have sighted S45°W, traversing a distance of 57 chains 20 links, and so on, until he reached station 1 again. Each line tree noted would have been marked with three slashes or notches and corner trees would have been marked with an additional "+" above the slashes. The area in acres of the shape drawn on the plat would probably have been figured by dividing the figure into rectangles and triangles.

Adapted from plat for William Proctor, 1762. Loose Plats, Colonial Series: Folder #1548.

mark line trees with "≡" on the outside of the line, and corner trees at each angle of the landholding with "±". In instruction number twelve, surveyors were told never to mark a tree with "+" unless it be a corner post" (Statutes, IV: 765-68). Trees marking the boundary between contiguous landholdings are often shown on the plat as "nm," or "om," or both. These symbols were written to indicate whether the surveyor made the first (new marked) or second (old marked) set of marks of the tree. Trees used from older surveys were to be double marked and indicated as such on the plat.

Boundary lines did not simply extend from one tree to the next in a helter skelter fashion. Surveyors were instructed to provide a sufficient number of markers *on the line*. Where trees were not available, especially in marsh or swamp areas, lightwood stakes were frequently used to mark cadastral boundaries. Surveyors were instructed specifically to take care in mentioning the course and distance that a stake was from any tree (Misc. Records, Book DD: 19). Although other studies of colonial surveying report the use of rocks as monuments, South Carolina plats do not indicate that this was a common practice (e.g., Hilliard, 1982; Mulford, 1912; Brown, et al., 1981).

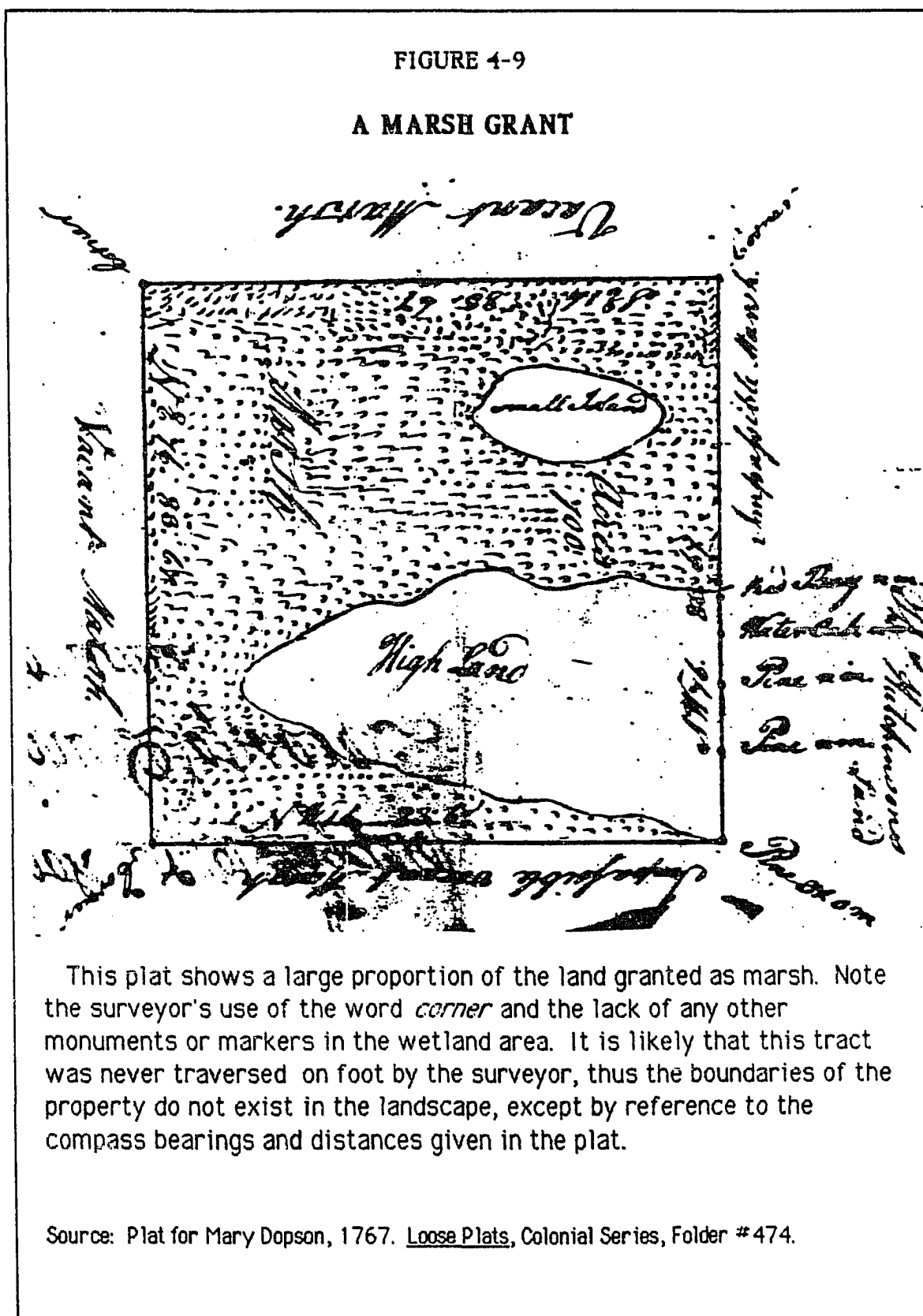
If the surveyor was not able to traverse a line because of health endangering situations as in swamps or marshes, he was instructed to extend the lines on the plat straight according to the proper angle and

distance and to indicate corners with the word *corner* (Figure 4-9). Only on a few (seven) of the sample plats did surveyors neglect to use any monuments at all or to use only the word *corner* as a marker. Invariably, these plats show a large portion, sometimes all, of the landholding as swamp or marsh. As settlement grew denser, this practice undoubtedly caused a great deal of dispute.

Surveyors used monuments or markers that were not permanent fixtures on the landscape. The life expectancy for most trees in South Carolina is fewer than 100 years (although some live oaks in the region are famous for their longevity), and trees could be cut or burned and stakes could be removed. Reluctance of colonial officials to survey landholdings before they were occupied undoubtedly was a reflection of the ephemeral nature of the boundary markers used in a metes and bounds survey. The knowledge and recall of individual settlers, however, were much more durable.⁴ People were expected to know where the boundaries of their landholdings extended. They were counted on to aid the surveyor in his work and to provide permanence to the boundaries that were established. This was neither a new nor a frontier attitude. Surveyors in Britain required aid from the people who lived on the land, and "whose memories went back farthest and who accompanied him [the surveyor] on his perambulation

FIGURE 4-9

A MARSH GRANT



together with some 'of the younger sort' who would be witnesses of the future" (Taylor, 1947: 122). This same attitude prevailed in South Carolina throughout the colonial period. In 1764, for example, during the establishment of Hillsborough, deputy surveyor Patrick Calhoun was advised by Council to have "2 or 3 of the Elder men . . . accompany you in Surveying that they may be better acquainted with boundary's of their Township" (Council Journals, July 13, 1764).

Shapes of Landholdings

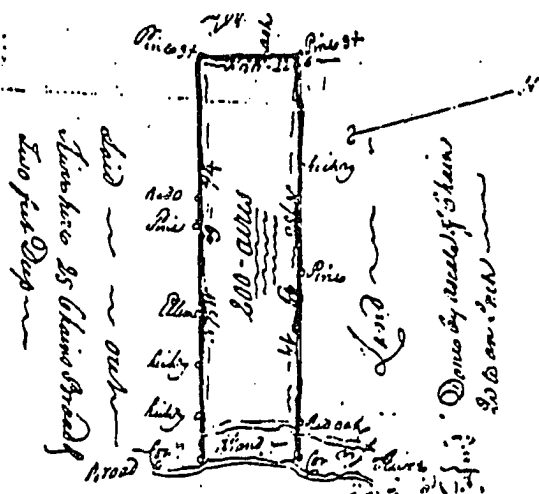
Although colonists were permitted to choose the sites of their acreage, they were not able to determine the shape of their landholdings. This was largely because of official policies that guided surveyors, but also because of simplistic surveying techniques used. Throughout the colonial period most South Carolina cadastral boundaries were established in a region that surveyors conceived as void of prior claim. Lacking the complexities of pre-existing boundaries, they found it easier and more efficient to survey a rectangular tract of land than any other geometric figure. Surveyors knew, for example, that a square of 200 acres had sides that were 44 chains and 72 links long (Figure 4-2). Surveyors had no control over the size or location of a settler's landholding, but they were able to determine the shape of the

tract depending on the location (riverine or inland).

In order to evaluate the types and frequencies of shapes of landholdings in colonial South Carolina, the sample plats were organized according to eight basic shapes (Figure 4-10). They also were grouped according to the number of sides bounded by adjoining grants. Overall, approximately 45 percent of the plats show perfectly square landholdings (Table 4-1). Almost 65 percent show landholdings that are perfectly regular (square or oblong), or that have only one irregular side. Only 9 percent of the landholdings were classed as very irregular, or having more than six sides. Although the sample did not include equal numbers of plats from each decade, a general pattern emerges regarding the historical trend in shapes of landholdings. More than 73 percent of the very irregularly shaped landholdings were surveyed in the 1760s and 70s. Squares were still common during these decades, but irregularly shaped parcels of land had become more usual, especially in locations along the coast where unclaimed land was scarce and contiguous tracts were more common. Furthermore, all three of the landholdings classed as very irregular show at least two sides bordering property that had been granted earlier.⁵ In fact, of the 901 landholdings analyzed, only 17 were even slightly irregularly shaped and not bounded by contiguous grants.

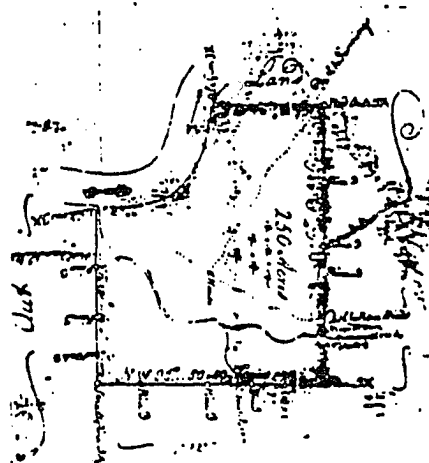
FIGURE 4-10 (CONT.)
EXAMPLES OF THE EIGHT SHAPE CATEGORIES
IN THE SAMPLE PLATS

RECTANGULAR-RIVERINE (RR)



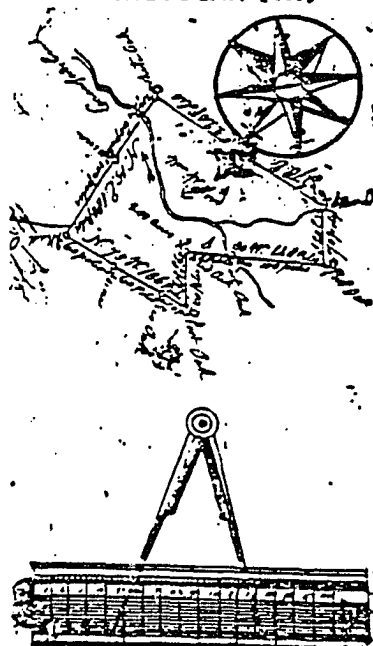
Plat for William Hunt, 1765. Loose Plats,
Colonial Series, Folder #924.

RIVERINE-IRREGULAR (RI)



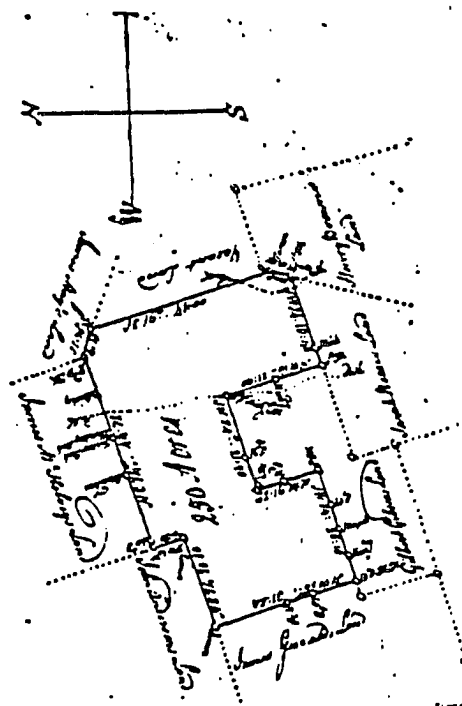
Plat for Nathaniel Hill, 1740. Loose Plats,
Colonial Series, Folder #858.

IRREGULAR (IR)



Plat for William Wofford, 1774. Loose Plats,
Colonial Series, Folder #2051.

VERY IRREGULAR (VI)



Plat for Jossee Goodwin, 1758. Loose Plats,
Colonial Series, Folder #711.

TABLE 4-1
FREQUENCY OF SHAPES BY BOUNDARY TYPES

Shape	Boundary Type								
FREQUENCY PERCENT ROW PCT COL PCT	None of These	All Sides Bounded	Island	Many Sides Bounded	Vacant All Sides	One Side Bounded	Two Side Bounded	TOTAL	
Irregular	1	23	4	88	9	20	45	190	
	0.11	2.55	0.44	9.77	1.00	2.22	4.99	21.09	
	0.53	12.11	2.11	46.32	4.74	10.53	23.68		
	100.00	46.00	80.00	39.11	3.45	10.10	27.95		
Rectangular	0	1	0	17	3	8	16	45	
	0.00	0.11	0.00	1.89	0.33	0.89	1.78	4.99	
	0.00	2.22	0.00	37.76	6.67	17.78	35.56		
	0.00	2.00	0.00	7.56	1.15	4.04	9.94		
Riverine Irregular	0	6	0	19	4	9	13	51	
	0.00	0.67	0.00	2.11	0.44	1.00	1.44	5.66	
	0.00	11.76	0.00	37.25	7.84	17.65	25.49		
	0.00	12.00	0.00	8.44	1.53	4.55	8.07		
Riverine Rectangular	0	4	0	12	27	31	21	95	
	0.00	0.44	0.00	1.33	3.00	3.44	2.33	10.54	
	0.00	4.21	0.00	12.63	28.42	32.63	22.11		
	0.00	8.00	0.00	5.33	10.34	15.66	13.04		
Square	0	2	0	16	214	123	49	404	
	0.00	0.22	0.00	1.78	23.75	13.65	5.44	44.84	
	0.00	0.50	0.00	3.96	52.97	30.45	12.13		
	0.00	4.00	0.00	7.11	81.99	62.12	30.43		
Semi- Rectangular	0	4	0	5	1	4	6	20	
	0.00	0.44	0.00	0.55	0.11	0.44	0.67	2.22	
	0.00	20.00	0.00	25.00	5.00	20.00	30.00		
	0.00	8.00	0.00	2.22	0.38	2.02	3.73		
Semi- Square	0	1	0	3	1	2	7	14	
	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.33	0.11	0.22	0.78	1.55	
	0.00	7.14	0.00	21.43	7.14	14.29	50.00		
	0.00	2.00	0.00	1.33	0.38	1.01	4.35		
Very Irregular	0	9	1	65	2	1	4	82	
	0.00	1.00	0.11	7.21	0.22	0.11	0.44	9.10	
	0.00	10.98	1.22	79.27	2.44	1.22	4.88		
	0.00	16.00	20.00	28.89	0.77	0.51	2.48		
Total	1	50	5	225	261	198	161	901	
	0.11	5.55	0.55	24.97	28.97	21.98	17.87	100.00	

These statistics call into question the notion that early colonial settlers tried to include only the most desirable land by having their acreages surveyed into completely distorted shapes. Even in the mid 1700s, when settlers (and surveyors) had a more accurate conception of where the best land would lie, surveys followed a regular pattern. The shapes of landholdings located in isolated frontier settlements or in the townships surveyed after 1730 support this conclusion. The total sample included 136 identifiable township or frontier area plats of survey (Table 4-2). Of these, 69 percent show either perfectly square or rectangular landholdings, and only 10 percent are categorized as very irregular.

Survey of Riverine Landholdings

Landholdings along rivers also exhibit striking regularity in shape, as well as adherence to the official policy of allowing only a specified proportion of land along the river. Riverine tracts constituted more than 16 percent of the sample. Approximately 63 percent of these were perfectly oblong (allowing for slight irregularities in the line along the water). In 1730, colonial officials fixed the ratio of land fronting a river to the amount extending away from it as: one to four, or, for every chain along the river, the landholding had to include four extending away from it. An analysis of

TABLE 4-2
SHAPES OF SAMPLE PLAT LANDHOLDINGS
IN TOWNSHIPS AND OTHER FRONTIER AREAS

LOCATION	NUMBER IN SAMPLE	SHAPE CATEGORIES*							
		IR	RE	RI	RR	SQ	SR	SS	VI
Amelia	17	4	1	0	3	9	0	0	0
Belfast/Londonderry	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Boonesborough	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Hillsborough	6	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
Kingston	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Purrysburgh	14	0	4	0	1	8	0	0	1
Queensborough	5	1	0	0	3	1	0	0	0
Saxa Gotha	8	1	2	1	2	2	0	0	0
Welsh Tract	16	1	0	2	8	4	0	0	1
Williamsburgh	11	5	0	0	4	0	0	0	2
Fredricksburgh	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Orangeburgh	11	1	4	0	1	4	0	0	1
Ninety-Six	9	3	0	1	0	4	0	0	1
Fork Broad & Saluda Rivers	29	6	0	0	0	17	0	0	6
TOTALS	136	25	12	4	24	58	0	0	13
PERCENTAGES	100%	18%	8%	3%	18%	43%	0%	0%	10%

*See Figure 4-10 for an explanation of the shape-category symbols.

riverine and landholdings surveyed after 1730 reveals that approximately 94 percent of the sample complied with the ratio rule.

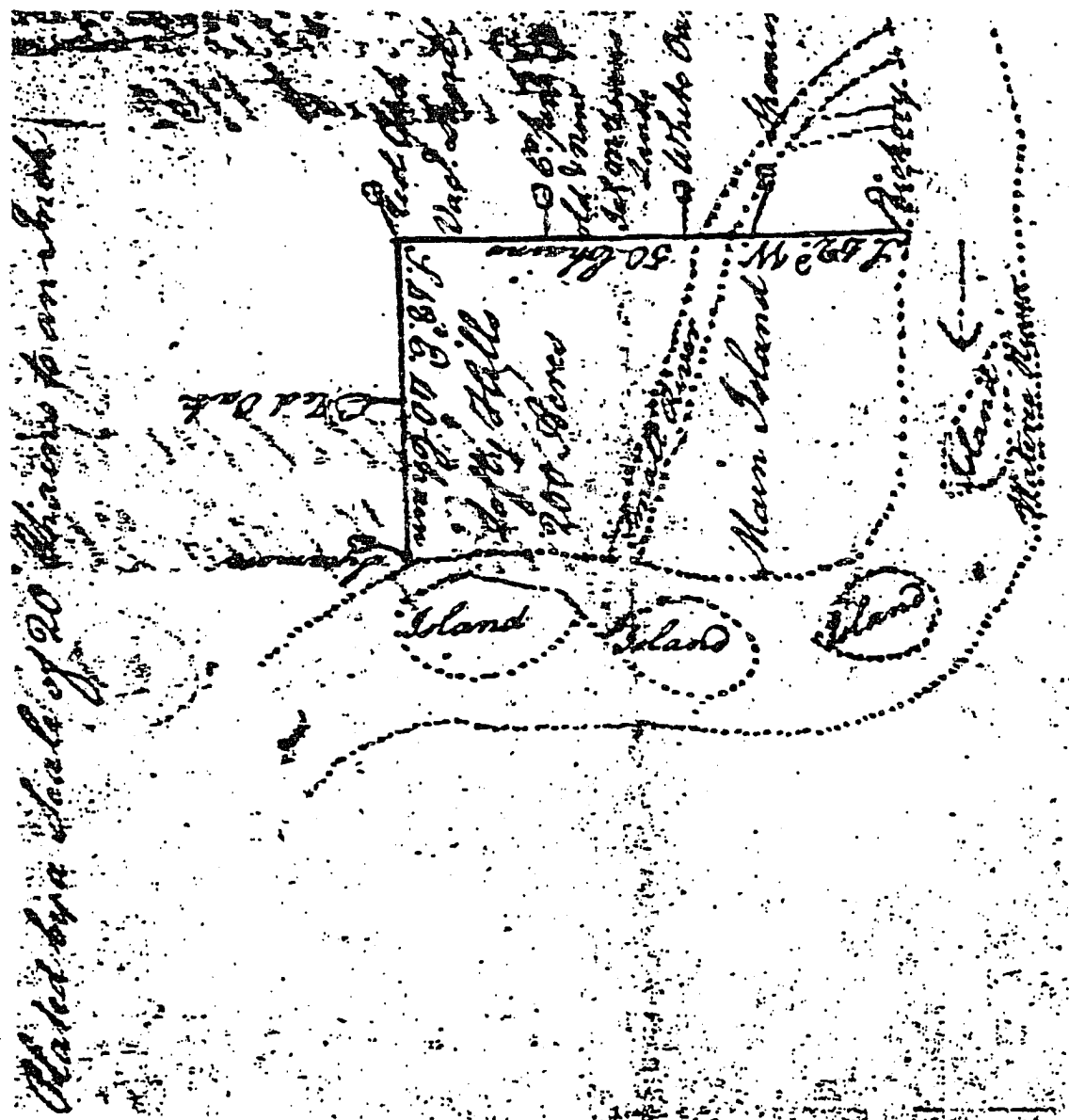
Apparently, however, the length and compass direction of the side bounding the river was not a consideration in the final confirmation of the survey by the surveyor general's office. Some settlers (and astute surveyors) sought to circumvent the rule by taking advantage of the river's shape at a particular locality. River bends were especially favored sites, because a "rectangle" could be surveyed with unequal sides, allowing more water frontage, while maintaining the integrity of the ratio rule (Figure 4-11 and 4-12). Another common way of achieving the same goal was to survey at some angle to a river, rather than perpendicular to it (Figure 4-13). Again, the result was more frontage on the river.

In 1764 Council considered specifically the fact that surveyors were evading the four-to-one ratio by splitting a settler's warrant. First, they surveyed part of the warrant as a slip of land some distance away from the river. Then, because the "vacant" land along the river was already bound on its inland side by the first survey, a longer river frontage legitimately could be claimed sometime later by the remaining portion of the warrant (Council Journals, Apr. 12, 1764), (Figure 4-14).

As noted earlier, the navigability of rivers was another item that

FIGURE 4-11

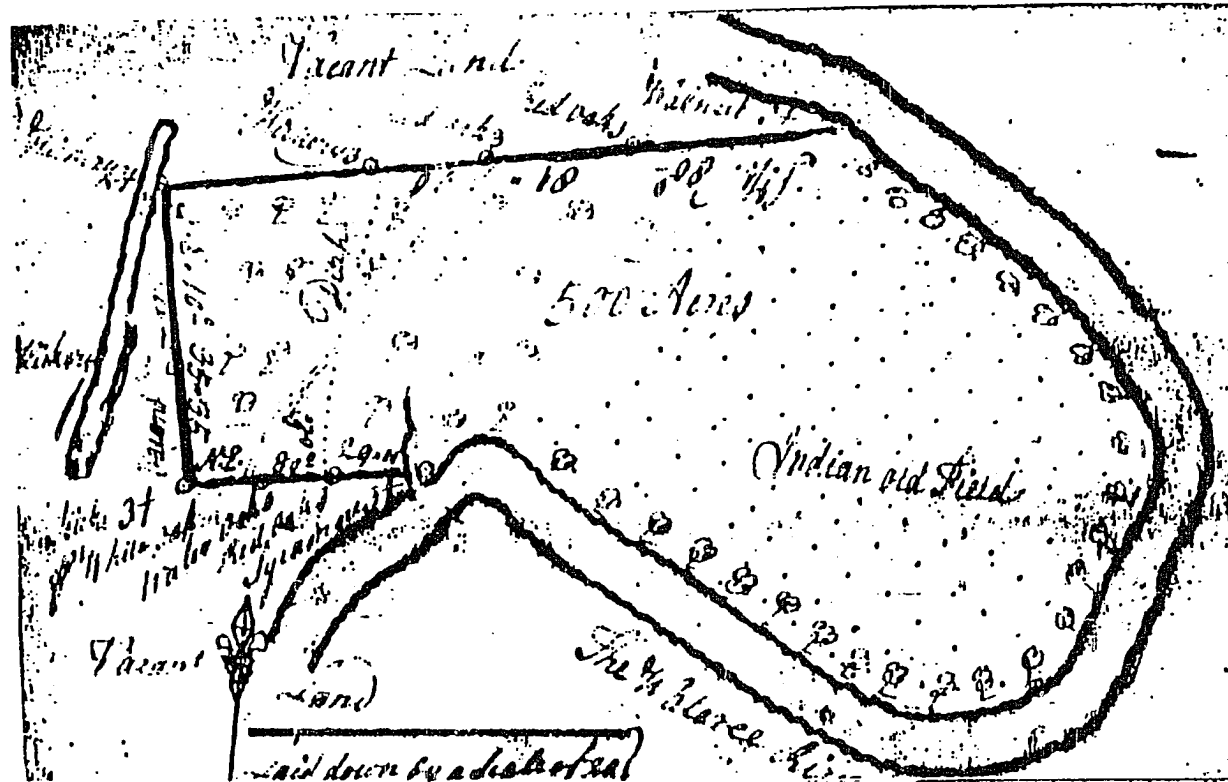
EVADING THE RIVER RULES: SURVEYING RIVER BENDS



This plat illustrates an attempt to evade the ratio rule for land-holdings along a river: for every chain along the water, the tract had to include four chains extending away from it. By selecting a site along a river bend, the ratio rule could be met, while affording the landowner a greater portion of the river front.

Plat for George Neall, 1756. Loose Plats, Colonial Series, Folder #1389.

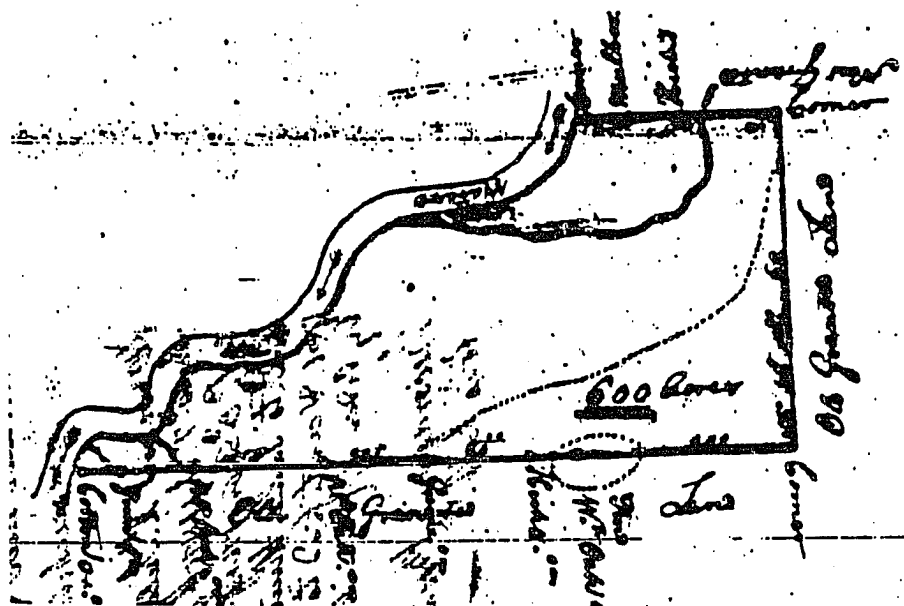
FIGURE 4-12
EVADING THE RIVER RULES: SURVEYING RIVER BENDS



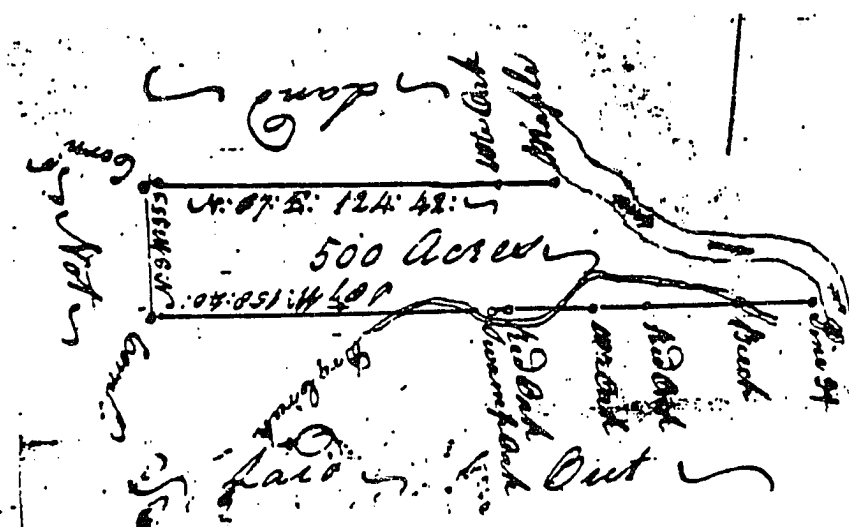
This plat illustrates an attempt to evade the ratio rule for landholdings along a river: for every chain along the water, the tract had to include four chains extending away from it. In this case, the landowner selected a site along a tight meander loop in the river course, and by surveying the tract into the geometric figure shown, the ratio rule has been met, while providing a much broader river frontage.

Plat for Roger Gibson, 1747. Loose Plats, Colonial Series, Folder #684.

FIGURE 4-13
EVADING THE RIVER RULES:
SURVEYING AT AN ANGLE TO THE RIVER



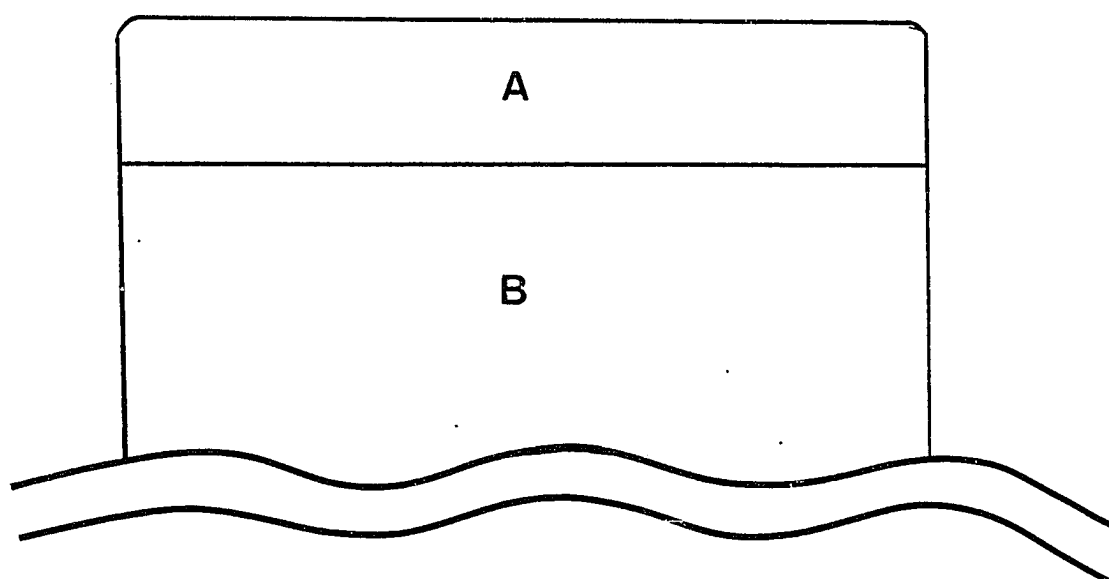
Plat for Sam Frier, 1759. Loose Plats, Colonial Series, Folder #750.



Plat for Isaac Gray, 1766. Loose Plats, Colonial Series, Folder #735.

These two plats illustrate another way of evading the river ratio rule: for every chain along the water, the tract had to include four chains extending away from it. Landowners simply instructed their surveyors to survey the lines of the landholding at some angle to the river rather than perpendicular to it. The result was an "oblong-shaped" lot that had unequal sides because of the location of the river in relation to the boundaries.

FIGURE 4-14

EVADING THE RIVER RULES: A SPLIT WARRANT

By splitting one warrant into two and claiming each parcel of land at different times, a settler could evade the survey rule of four chains inland for each chain fronting the river. In this example, a narrow strip of land (A) situated a short distance inland from the river would be claimed first. Then after receiving the grant for A, the settler could legitimately take a larger portion of the river frontage (B), claiming that the land behind or inland from him had already been granted.

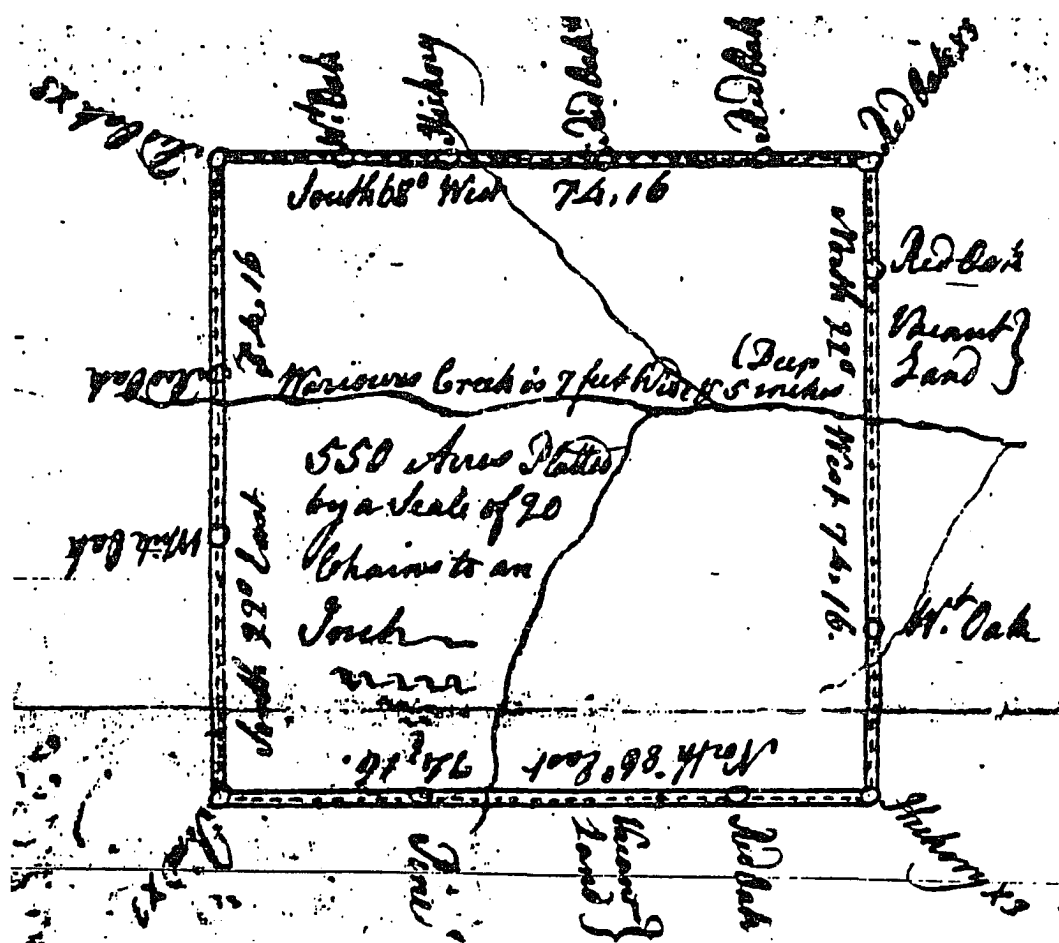
surveyors were required to observe and record on their plats. The earliest such observations appeared in surveys done after 1751, when the order was handed down by colonial officials. Only 76 or 26 percent of the sample landholdings with rivers or creeks, surveyed between 1752 and 1776, have the required breadth and depth measurements. Furthermore, only 28 different surveyors made these measurements during the three decades, indicating that the majority of surveyors simply ignored the order. Most of the water measurements are found on plats with riverine landholdings *any* shape *but* oblong. If a surveyor declared a creek or river unnavigable, the settler could claim as much frontage on it as he wished, or, indeed, claim a whole portion of the drainage basin (Figure 4-15). Apparently, stream measurements included on plats were there to justify the shape of the landholding. Accordingly, many plats of this period, showing rivers but not breadth and depth measurements, are oblong surveys situated on well-known navigable rivers. The justification for including water measurements would not have been necessary because the survey complied with the ratio rule.

Compass Orientation of Landholdings

There were no official policies regarding the compass orientation of

FIGURE 4-15

SURVEY OF A CREEK BASIN: WITH WATER MEASUREMENTS



The survey of lots along waterways was of continual interest to colonial officials. If a surveyor declared a creek or river unnavigable, (defined as less than nine feet wide and twelve inches deep), the settler could claim as much frontage on it as he wished, or in this case, claim a portion of the whole drainage basin.

Plat for James Gooseby, 1766. Loose Plats, Colonial Series, Folder #714.

landholdings, so this is an aspect of surveying over which an individual surveyor could have exerted a great deal of control. Usually in a metes and bounds survey, landholdings are oriented to some physical feature, such as a river, or to the property lines of adjacent landowners. But landholdings could also be oriented to an abstract image of what the surveyor believes to be the proper position. From the earliest settlement, most land surveyed in South Carolina was laid out within the bounds of some larger spatial framework. The first such framework involved the counties and the second involved the townships (Figure 2-3). Although county boundaries were not surveyed precisely until well after they were proposed in the 1680s, their general compass orientations were known to surveyors. The outlying boundaries of the townships were surveyed in the early 1730s prior to settlement and were well known to surveyors.

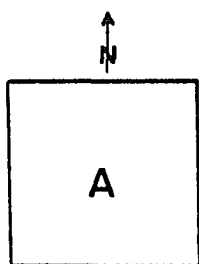
It is possible that some landholdings in the colony were laid out to correspond to the compass orientations of the counties or townships in which they were located. Square landholdings offer the best test of this hypothesis because their orientation is rarely based directly on physical features. In order to analyze the compass orientations of square landholdings, four categories were established: A, those with boundary lines oriented exactly east-west, north-south; B, those with boundary lines oriented exactly

northeast-southwest, northwest-southeast; C, those with boundary lines within five degrees of B; and N, those not fitting any of these patterns (Figure 4-16). The rationale for these categories evolves from the compass orientations of the counties and townships (Figure 2-3). Most of these units were oriented either along South Carolina's northeast-southwest coastline or along rivers that generally flow in a northwest-southeasterly direction.

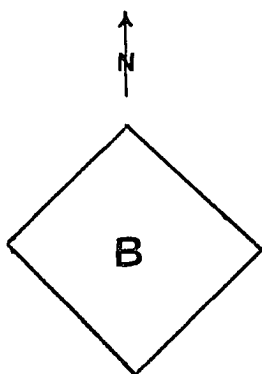
There were 401 square landholdings in the sample. Of these, approximately 50 percent have lines with compass orientations between 40 and 50 degrees from the north-south, east-west cardinal points (categories B and C combined); (Figure 4-17). This range corresponds to the orientations of the township and county boundaries. There appears to be no concentration of the A or N categories regarding location; landholdings with these orientations were found throughout the colony. On the other hand, the B and C category landholdings were concentrated in the townships or other settlements having outlying boundaries surveyed prior to settlement.

In Amelia township, all of the square landholdings fit into B category. The entire sample contained 17 plats from Amelia, surveyed between 1735 and 1772 by seven different surveyors. All 17 landholdings, including shapes other than squares, were judged to fall either into B or C category. This suggests that, at least in Amelia, surveyors may have attempted to follow

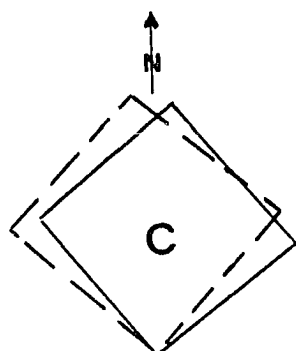
FIGURE 4-16

CATEGORIES OF COMPASS ORIENTATIONS FOR SAMPLE PLATS

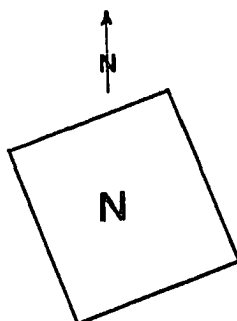
Boundaries oriented exactly (90°) north-south and east-west.



Boundaries oriented exactly (45°) northeast-southwest and northwest-southeast.

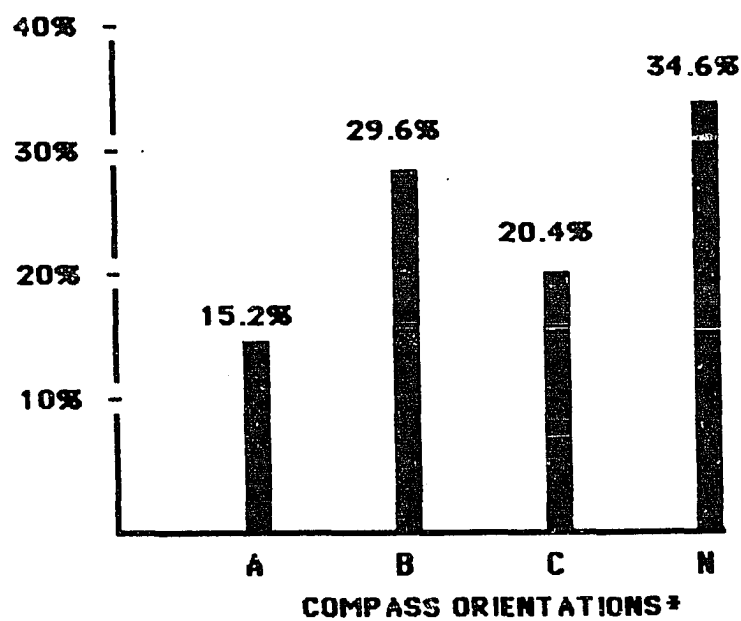


Boundaries oriented $\pm 5^{\circ}$ from B.



Boundaries oriented in none of the directions above.

FIGURE 4-17
FREQUENCY OF SQUARE LANDHOLDINGS BY
COMPASS ORIENTATION



***See Figure 4-16 for an explanation of the
compass orientation categories.**

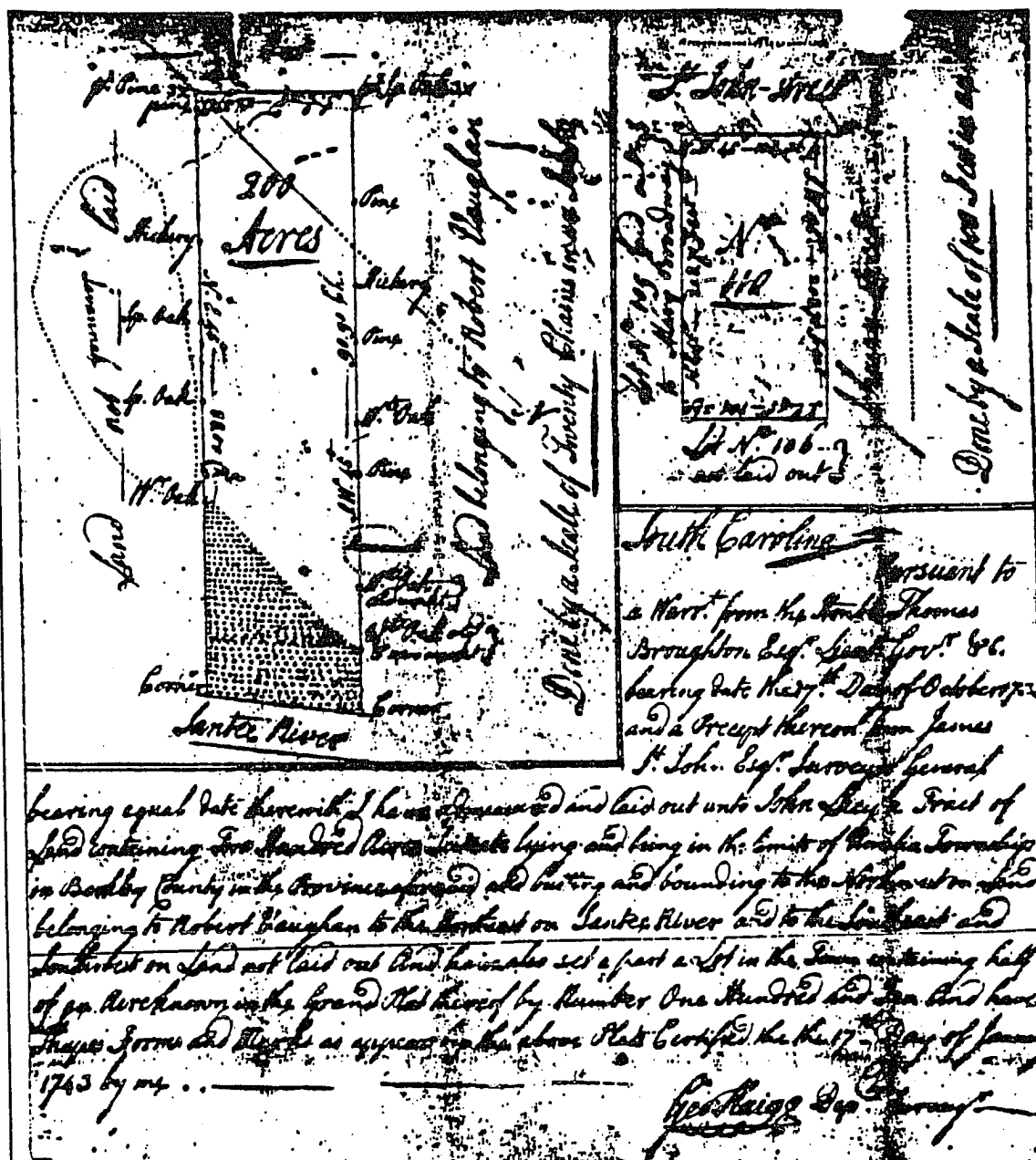
some overall plan. As indicated earlier, surveyors were permitted to survey the township lands in units for groups of colonists according to a lottery system and to require that colonists take up land in as compact a settlement as possible. If a surveyor could persuade the first settler in a group to have his land laid out in a particular direction, the others, according to the rules of the lottery, would be obliged to follow suit. This process would have been more likely to occur in the townships because the surveyors in these jurisdictions retained more control over the settlement procedure.

Cadastral Surveys in Towns

Surveying in towns in South Carolina was accomplished in somewhat a different manner from the planting lots.⁶ The primary difference was that many towns were surveyed prior to settlement. In most cases, town lots were drawn on the same plat with the planting lot (Figure 4-18). Surveyors identified the lot by a number corresponding to the model plan. Boundary markers often were not shown on the plat, or were shown as stakes or delineated simply by the word *corner*; but the length and compass direction of each line were always given. The town lots included in the sample, except those in Purrysburg, were oblong in shape, with the short side along a street. The town lots in Purrysburg were square.

FIGURE 4-18

PLAT SHOWING GRANTEE'S PLANTING AND TOWN LOT



This plat shows the survey of a planting lot and a town lot in Amelia Township, Berkeley County. Surveyors commonly included the description of both types of lots on the same plat. The town lots, each a half acre in size, were always laid out in oblong shapes fronting on a street (except those in Purrysburg, which were square). Each town lot was identified by a number according to its location in the master plan of the town.

Plat for John Lacy, 1743. Loose Plats, Colonial Series, Folder #1062.

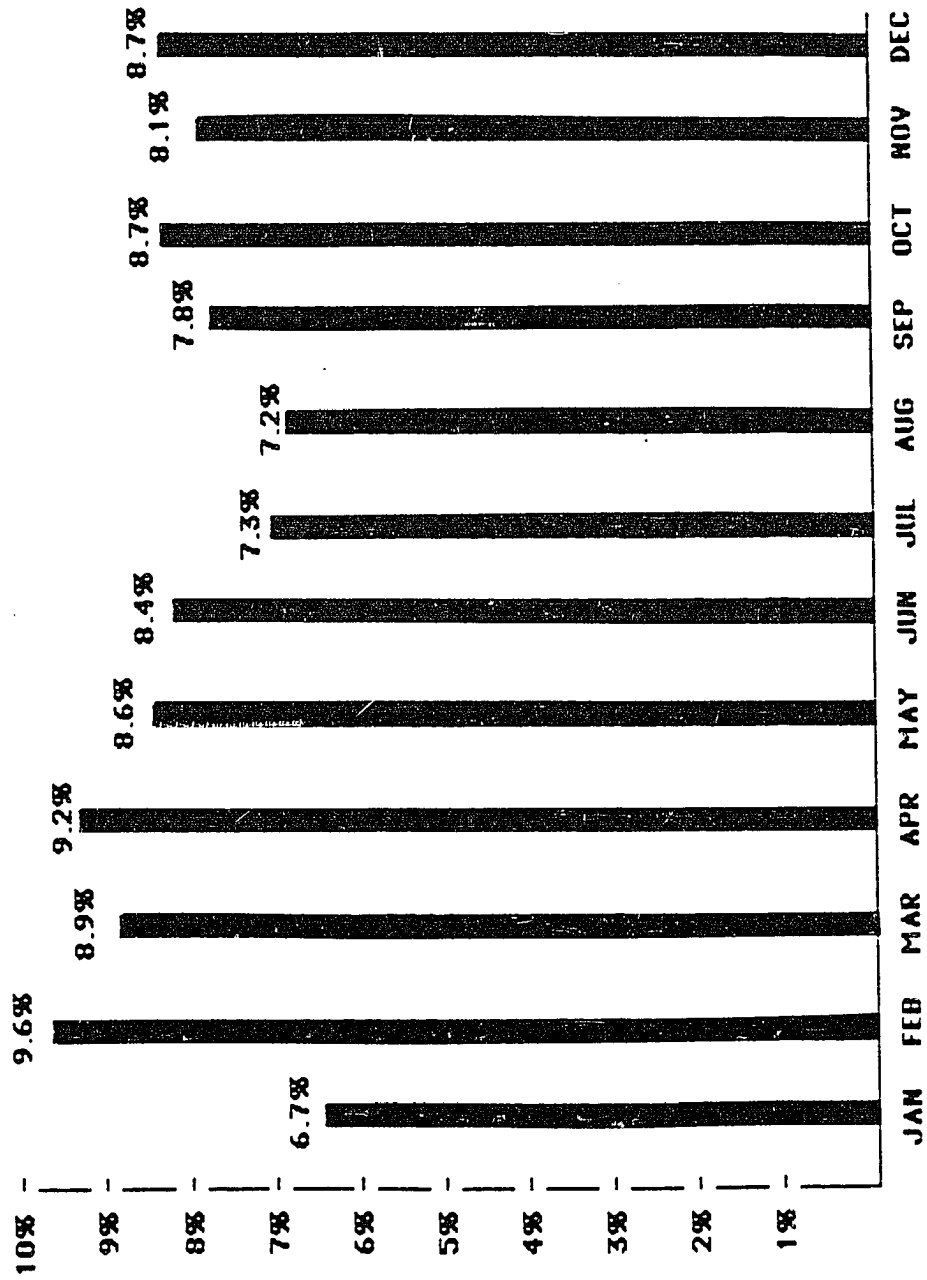
Surveying Seasons

Surveying in South Carolina as a whole was probably not a seasonal activity. Once the grantee obtained a warrant, he was given a specific amount of time--six to twelve months-- in which to have his land surveyed by a certified deputy surveyor. In 1733, for example, deputies were instructed that they should personally attend the surveyor general's office in Charleston on the last Tuesday in March and September of each year in order to return warrants and plats not previously returned (Misc. Records, Book DD: 71-73). This directive indicates that a surveyor's business in Charleston may have occurred during a slack time, before planting and after harvesting, but it does not reveal a peak season for actual surveying work.

Dates from the sample plats show a fairly even distribution of surveying in all twelve months (Figure 4-19). Comments made by Henry Laurens, a prominent eighteenth-century merchant and planter from the low country, suggest that surveying may have been seasonal in certain locations because of weather and insect problems. Laurens mentioned several times in his writings that he preferred the winter season for having his lands surveyed. In one letter, he specifically indicated that he wanted his lands surveyed in "the month of December or January when Gentlemen will be

FIGURE 4-19

FREQUENCY OF SAMPLE PLAT SURVEYS BY MONTH

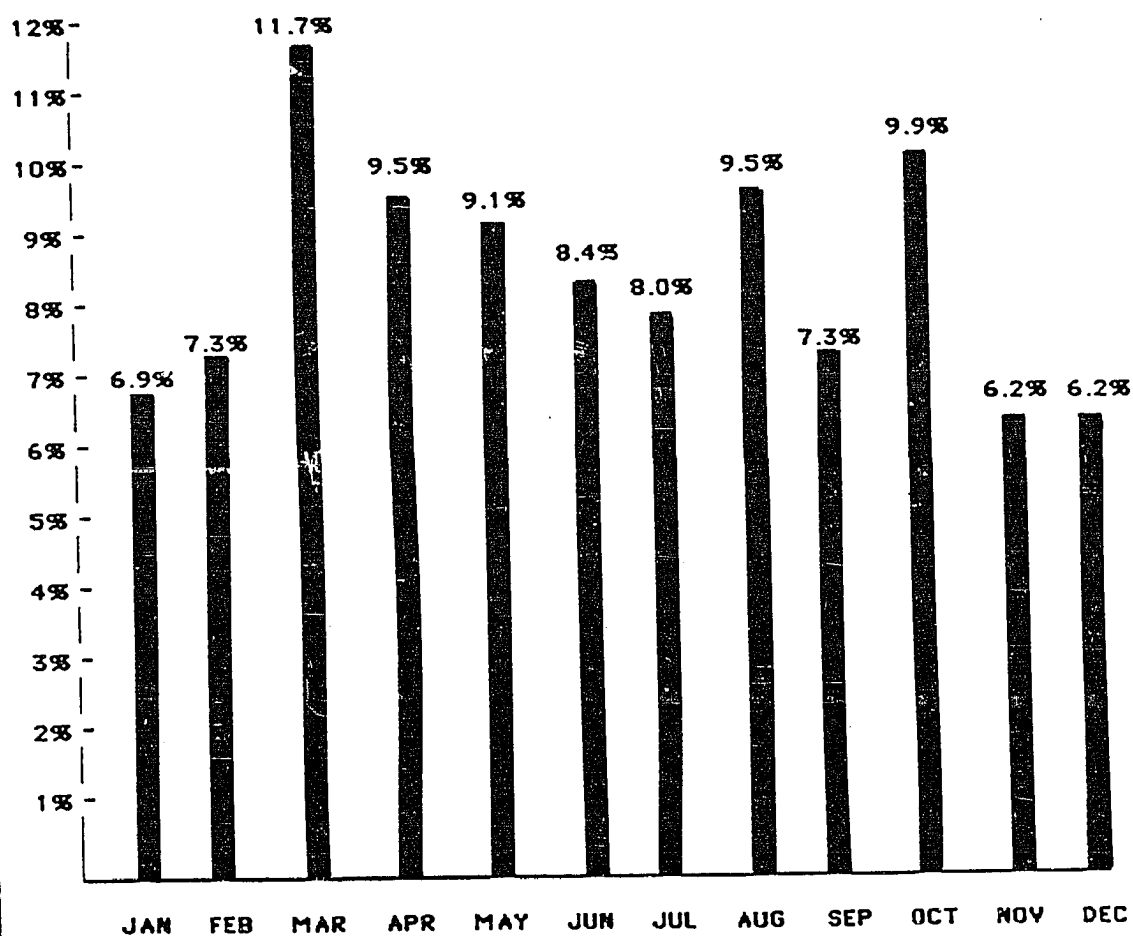


more inclin'd to ride in the woods & survey the lands with more certainty and less danger" (Rogers, et al., 1980, 4: 619). On another occasion, he requested William Mayne, a deputy surveyor, to survey some land near Charleston in February, "so that we may be as Little as possible exposed to the inconveniences of warm weather & that Legion of insects which will soon re-assume their dominions in the woods" (Rogers, et al., 1980, 4: 574). Survey dates from specific low country localities in the sample, however, do not support Lauren's preference. In addition, survey dates from all landholdings having swamp or marsh do not reveal a strong preference for any particular month or season (Figure 4-20). This may be explained, though, by the fact that swamp and marsh lands customarily were not measured out on foot by colonial surveyors.

The Surveyor as Land Assayer

Surveyors in South Carolina were frequently called upon to assess the quality and potential usefulness of the lands they surveyed. Indeed, colonial surveyors simply continued the role of land assayer, which their British predecessors had long considered an integral part of their work. In the colony, though, valuation of property was not as important for tax or rent purposes, as it was for the prosperity of those who expected to earn a living

FIGURE 4-20

FREQUENCY OF SAMPLE PLAT SURVEYS OF SWAMP AND MARSH
BY MONTH

from the the land.

The surveyor's ability to discriminate between fruitful and barren land was both a product of his experience in the colony and his perception of the potential use of the land. Surveyors who traveled the extent of their districts continuously throughout the year, noting the successes and failures of various land uses, would have gained a storehouse of information valuable to settlers, especially newcomers. Indeed, surveyors were recognized as astute observers of the physical qualities of land. During the establishment of the townships, for example, surveyors were especially requested "to take notice of the land" encompassed by the township boundaries (Council Journals, May 29, 1735). George Haig, D. S., reported to the Council on two occasions concerning the quality of the soil in the Welsh Tract and in the township of Saxa Gotha (Council Journals, Mar. 15, 1745; Nov. 6, 1747). In November 1749, Peter Faure concurred with Haig regarding Saxa Gotha in his report to the Council: "land in Saxa Gotha township would be of no service . . . because there is no lands there vacant but what is so miserable poor and barren" (Council Journals, Nov. 7, 1749). In both cases, Haig and Faure had submitted these testimonials so that land could be surveyed for settlers in a place other than Saxa Gotha, the location that had been listed on their warrants. Both petitions were granted based on the surveyors' reports.

The Council frequently asked surveyors to aid new settlers in the selection of good quality land (e.g., Council Journals, Oct. 29, 1751). And, Governor Glen's order of 1739, directing surveyors to provide each settler with the same proportion of "profitable and unprofitable land," formalized the surveyor's duty as land assayer (BPRO-SC, 20: 128). Ironically, while expanding the authority of the surveyor's personal judgment in his work, this order further eroded the settler's ability to mold completely the character of his landholding.

Indeed, some settlers seemed to rely totally on the surveyor's judgment regarding the location of their land. Henry Laurens, for example, was particularly careful in the selection of his surveyors, as he frequently requested them to choose the site for his landholding. On one occasion he asked Joseph Dupont, D. S., to survey 20,000 acres "mostly profitable land" in one tract. (Even by colonial standards, this represented a large quantity of land.) If this could not be done, Laurens instructed Dupont not to make a formal survey, but "just a plain and clear description of the land" (Rogers, et al., 1980, 5: 191). Apparently Laurens placed a great deal of confidence in the abilities of surveyors because, on another occasion, he hired John Linder, D. S., to survey a tract of land near Purrysburg. In the course of the survey, Linder was required "to return an account of . . . qualities, how much

Savanna & cleared plantable Land, in all, what quantity of unclear'd tupelo or other swamp, if any part is subject to be overflowed by Saltish water, what capacity for dams & reserves & what quantity of Oak & Hickory & Pine Land & of what use such high land may be to the Plantation" (Rogers, et al., 1980, 5: 306). There is no indication that Laurens paid Linder an additional fee for such a comprehensive assessment, or whether this was an unusual request.

Eventually, South Carolina surveyors also became involved in determining the fair and equitable division of land among heirs, based upon the potential use of the land. Usually one or two surveyors, along with several other witnesses, were commissioned to survey and to assess land provided to heirs in wills. The plats drawn by the surveyors for this purpose were often very detailed, with each type of land indicated (Figure 4-21). In many cases, unequal portions of land were provided to heirs based solely on the quality of the land. For example, in the writ of partition for the heirs of Walter Izard the plat clearly shows three parcels of land, one containing 810 acres and the other two containing 710 acres each (Figure 4-22). The commissioners stated in the text of the writ that they divided the land into "divisions of equal value" (Writs of Partition, Book A: 151-52). The neck tract, according to their judgement, contained more acreage because it

FIGURE 4-21

A WRIT OF PARTITION



South Carolina surveyors frequently were hired to determine the fair and equitable division of land among heirs, based upon its potential use. Plats drawn for this purpose often contained detailed information about the type of land. According to the description accompanying this plat for the heirs of Jacob Martin, each parcel contained 547 1/2 acres of equal quality land. Note the delineation of pine land, from oak, and from swamp, and the obvious attempt of the surveyor to include an equal portion of each type in the four separate divisions.

Plat for Jacob Martin, 1763. Writs of Partition, Book A: 176.

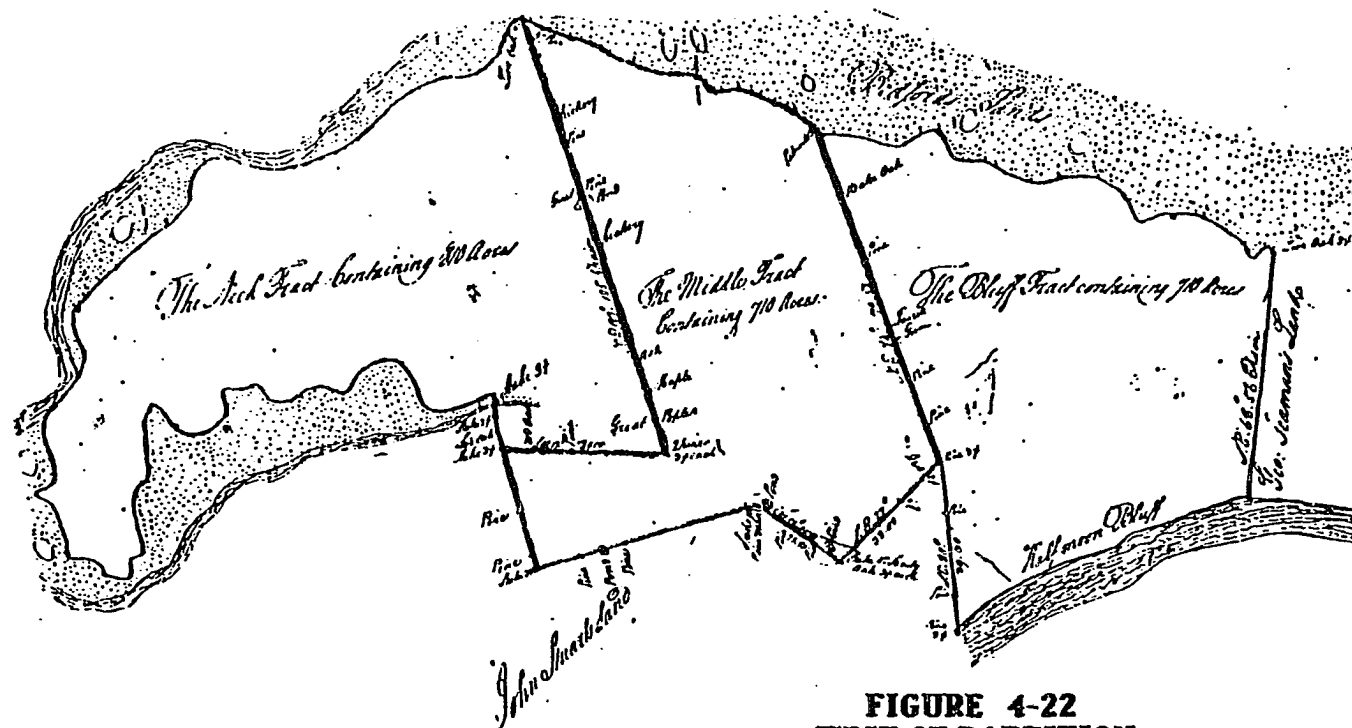


FIGURE 4-22
WRIT OF PARTITION
FOR THE HEIRS OF WALTER IZARD

South Carolina surveyors frequently were hired to determine the fair and equitable division of land among heirs, based upon the quality of the land. On this plat for the heirs of Walter Izard, the surveyor divided the acreage into three tracts, one containing 810 acres and the other two containing 710 acres each. In the text of the writ, the commissioners state that they divided the land into divisions of equal value; the neck tract contains more acreage because it has poorer quality soil and fewer timber resources

Plat for Walter Izard, 1767. Writs of Partition, Book A: 151-152.

had poorer quality soil and fewer timber resources.

The Cadastral Pattern and Changing Land Use

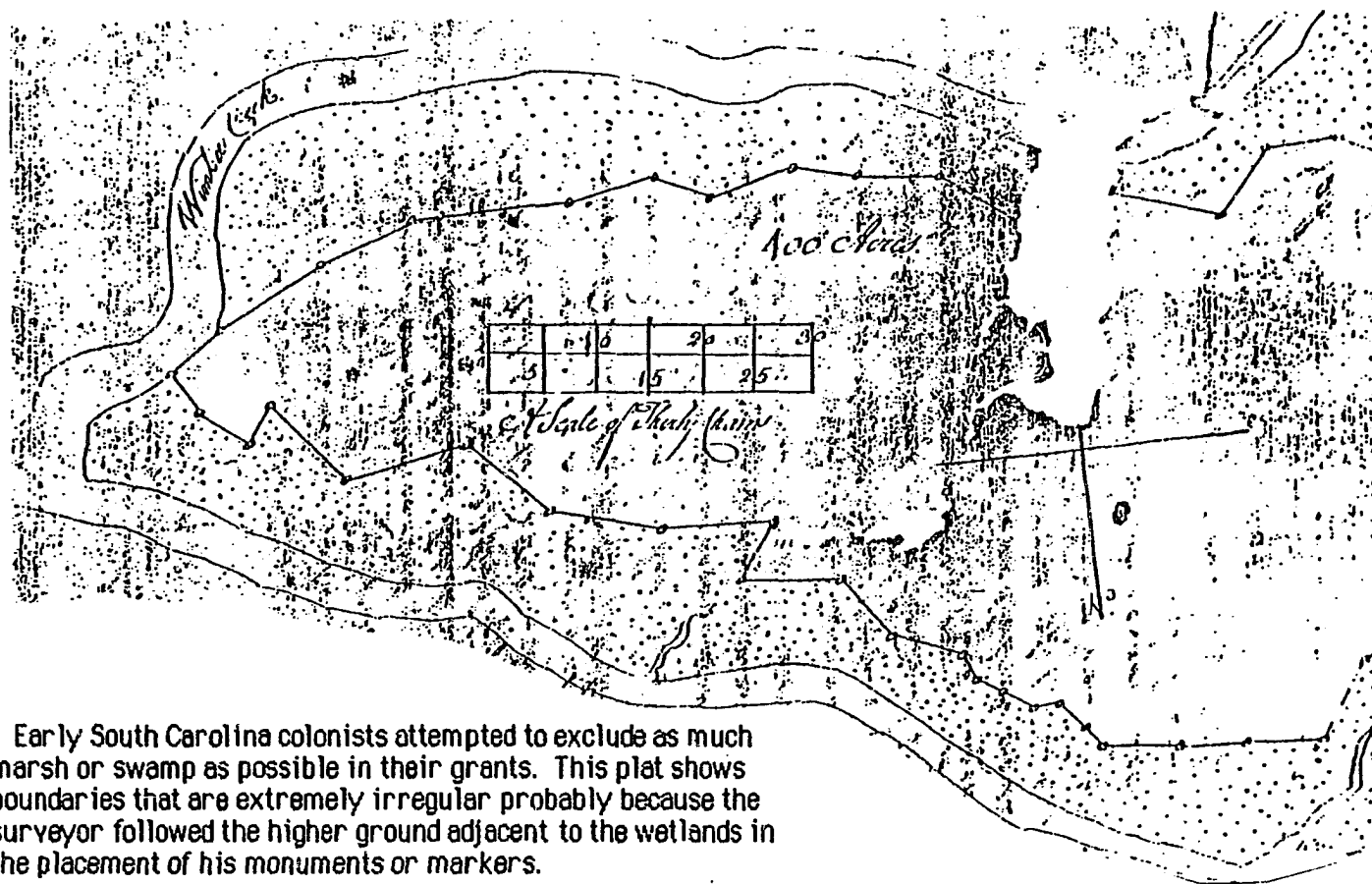
Within the framework of official surveying policies and guidance from the surveyor, the final control over the evolution of a cadastral pattern in South Carolina was the freedom of settlers to choose the sites of their lots. Selection of land was based in part on conceived quality and potential use, regardless of whether the surveyor or the settler chose the land. Land uses in South Carolina changed as colonists experimented with imported and indigeneous crops. Livestock, particularly cattle, were important to the nascent colony, and pasture or range land was sought to develop the industry. In addition, native timber resources were used in a variety of ways, including shipbuilding and naval stores. Notions about the healthfulness of the environment was also a factor in determining the quality of a particular site. Thoughts about land quality, held by surveyors and settlers alike, influenced the way that different land types were surveyed at various times in South Carolina.

Swamp and marsh are particularly appropriate to evaluate in this regard because conceptions about their use and desirability changed dramatically during South Carolina's colonial history. At the beginning of

settlement, swamps and marshes were avoided by most colonists. There were no rules regarding the survey or use of these lands, as they were generally considered wasteland. In the early years, riverine and coastal lowlands were frequently not included within the bounds of a landholding, presumably because settlers felt that no one would claim this land and access to the water would be assured (Figure 4-23). Ironically, the boundaries of these landholdings, though extremely irregular, were probably more accurately known because the surveyor usually marked trees on the higher land to indicate the perimeter of the property. Later, when settlers became more interested in claiming the lowlands, surveyors simply drew the bounds of the landholding on the plat, without the benefit of actual traverse, measurement, or markers.

As South Carolinians searched for a profitable staple crop for the colony, they experimented with many plants including tobacco, citrus, mulberry trees for silk production, coffee, grapes, and sugarcane. In the 1690s rice was introduced to the colonists, and it became one of the most important exports from the province as early as 1730. Non-irrigated rice was first grown on a variety of soil types. Later, irrigation or field flooding of the crop was adopted by planters, and inland swamps and eventually tidal marshes became favored sites for rice cultivation (Hilliard, 1978).

FIGURE 4-23
PLAT SHOWING MARSH OR SWAMP NOT INCLUDED IN THE GRANT



Early South Carolina colonists attempted to exclude as much marsh or swamp as possible in their grants. This plat shows boundaries that are extremely irregular probably because the surveyor followed the higher ground adjacent to the wetlands in the placement of his monuments or markers.

Plat for William Bull, 1706. Memorial Books (Original Copy), I: 313.

The advent of rice culture in South Carolina encouraged colonists to view swamp and marsh land in a new light. When the land office reopened in 1731, Council began receiving numerous petitions from settlers for "the low water lott" adjacent to property they already owned; and acreage consisting of only swamp or marsh began to show up on plats of survey (e.g., Council Journals, Sept. 9, 1732; May 12, 1735; Sept. 5, 1735; Sept. 29, 1736)

Marsh land was valued for several other uses. "Hard marsh" was especially favored as pasture for cattle, though such land was not always claimed in the initial grant. Edward Fenwick, for example, petitioned Council in 1754 for the marsh surrounding Seabrook Islands, which had been granted to his family almost fifty years earlier. According to Fenwick's testimony, the marshes were not included in the original lines of survey, but the lands had been used and occupied for the past fifty years as range and pasture for cattle (Council Journals, Jan. 2, 1754). In addition, dead marsh grass or sedge was collected by the colonists and used as a fertilizer (Baldwin, 1976).

There is no doubt that in the mid-1700s marsh and swamp lands were viewed by South Carolinians as property that could be improved to yield a profit. In fact, in 1762, Council became so concerned that the crown was losing a considerable amount of quitrents from unclaimed "low swamp and marsh land," that it ordered an advertisement concerning these lands to be

placed in the local newspapers. According to the advertisement, property owners who occupied land contiguous to swamp or marsh could have first rights on a grant to the wetlands. If they did not apply for such a grant within six months of the advertisement, the land could be granted to anyone else who wished it (Council Journals, May 4, 1762). Eventually, much of the colony's swamp and marsh lands were granted to individual settlers at one time or another. The fact that these lowlands were taken up at different times from the highlands adjacent to them, however, created a more complicated cadastral pattern.

Summary

Several factors influenced the evolution of South Carolina's cadastral landscape. Official surveying policies established a framework for the orderly division of the colony's territory. Colonial officials insisted on the fair and equal distribution of land by advocating the survey of grants into rectangular shapes wherever possible, and by ordering surveyors to include proportionately equal amounts of profitable and unprofitable land in each landholding. Surveyors adopted simple but inexact techniques and instruments especially suited to conditions in the colony, as the basis for land measuring throughout the colonial period. Surveying policies and

technology thus provided the legal structure for cadastral surveying in South Carolina, but the individual surveyor's personal skill, experience, and diligence determined the successful implementation of this structure in the landscape. Surveyors also played a role in the land acquisition process by assessing land quality as an aid to settlers. While colonists were free to choose the sites of their landholdings, conceived quality of different types of land, especially swamp and marsh, guided their decisions. Such ideas changed through time, however, creating a more complicated cadastral pattern. Because the "art of surveying" during the colonial period was so dependent upon the competence and decisions of many individuals, as well as on the use of inexact tools and techniques, disputes were an inevitable part of the metes and bounds survey system. The next chapter focuses on the nature of land disputes resulting from colonial surveying policies and procedures.

ENDNOTES

1. Rathborne's chain also employed the decimal system, but the surveyor was required to use the chain with one specific end forward (Richeson, 1966: 108-09).
2. Eighty chains equals one mile--346 chains thus equals about 4.25 miles.
3. See Chapter 2 for information on the establishment of South Carolina's townships.
4. Sam Hilliard (1982) expressed the same idea in his work on Hart County, Georgia.
5. Two of these plats were surveyed in 1706 by Thomas Broughton, with the obvious intention of excluding as much swamp or marsh land as possible. Figure 4-23 is a copy of one such plat.
6. Planting lot (or general lots), usually 100 acres or more, could be located anywhere within a colony or township. Frequently they were located at considerable distance from a town.

CHAPTER 5

LANDS IN DISPUTE

Land in South Carolina was so plentiful and inexpensive, and grants were typically so large, that land measured out in quantities "more or less" of a specified acreage was not of concern, as long as the tract had verifiable boundaries. As a matter of policy, surveyors were instructed to disregard "all fractions of an acre" in their surveys (Statutes, IV: 591). The level of technology adopted by colonial surveyors also permitted calculation error and instrument error, although disputes were not always precipitated by simple mistakes. Often, surveyors and customers were less interested in accuracy than they were in the speed of establishing legal boundaries. Indeed, the practice of not actually surveying tracts of swamp or marsh lowlands undoubtedly created inevitable future disputes. This chapter first considers possible sources of surveying errors and then reviews the intended operation of the metes and bounds survey system by outlining court cases of land disputes.

Sources of Land Survey Errors

South Carolina's colonial surveyors relied heavily on the magnetic compass and the chain to accomplish their work, thus many surveying mistakes can be attributed to instrument error. Perhaps the greatest source of error was in the incorrect use of the chain. There were a number of ways that the chain could have been used improperly, such as failure to hold the instrument level, straight, and completely taut, and failure to tally the line lengths correctly. Most of these misusages produced an error in line length and a subsequent miscalculation of the landholding's acreage. In general, *separate* errors produced from the misuse of the chain were small. A difference of one foot in height between the two ends of a chain, for example, would result in an error in distance of only one-hundredth of a foot (Love, 1971: 73). Several errors *compounded*, however, could produce a serious miscalculation of acreage. If the chain was not held straight, the problem usually was corrected when the surveyor back-sighted with the compass, as the compass reading would detect the error. But only a resurvey of the property would reveal the other errors mentioned.

In addition to possible errors associated with using the chain, the instrument itself presented a variety of inherent problems. Chains wore down easily with use and as links became thinner the instrument actually

increased in length. Links could be flattened or opened, altering the length of the chain, and the chain's length also would vary with temperature (Love, 1971: 50). South Carolina surveyors were instructed to have their chains inspected and calibrated frequently in an effort to reduce instrument error (Statutes, IV: 21).

Survey errors associated with using the compass resulted either from the faulty operation of the instrument or from failure to use it properly. Instrument defects, such as an improperly aligned needle in the compass box or a sticky needle, could only have been corrected by the instrument maker, but they were relatively easy to detect. South Carolina surveyors were instructed to touch the needle of their compass with a magnet at least once a year to assure good working order (Statutes, IV: 21). Errors caused by misuse of the compass, though, were more difficult to detect and control. Sometimes the instrument was simply read incorrectly. At other times errors resulted from careless proximity to metal objects such as rifles, axes, or the surveyor's chain, which caused a deflection of the magnetic needle. If the compass did not have a bubble level, it may have been difficult to hold the instrument horizontally, resulting in additional inaccurate readings. Compasses used by the earliest colonial surveyors were crude, even by late eighteenth-century standards. Precision of azimuth readings was a function

both of skilled workers and instrument quality, but the human factor probably caused more error than any instrument defects.

Surveyor incompetence and negligence also led to inaccurate surveys. Some men of dubious expertise and integrity certainly worked in South Carolina; the question is how often this type of individual appeared in the ranks of surveyors who served during the colonial period. One must recognize at the outset that perceptions of negligence and incompetence vary with time. Today, a surveyor who adds or subtracts a few feet from a lot would likely be taken to court. But in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, surveyors would usually "round off" acreage amounts, more commonly adding large numbers of acres to a landowner's lot. In fact, provision was made in a 1731 statute for a settler's exclusive right on overmeasured land (Statutes, III: 303). Thus, beginning in the early 1730's, the Council Journals reveal numerous petitions for the "overmeasure" or "overplus" acreage discovered in a landholding after a resurvey. Council normally granted the petitions with little discussion or formality. Only rarely did Council hear a petition from a settler complaining of a short survey.

Continual, albeit occasional, complaints about surveyors occurred throughout the colonial period. After all, South Carolina's first surveyor

general, Florence O'Sullivan, was relieved of his duties primarily because of incompetence. One common problem was the surveyor's failure to research existing property claims thoroughly, resulting in a survey of land that had already been laid out for someone else, or claimed by someone else. One such dispute, brought before Council in March 1732, led the legislature to order the following "standing rule": any person who discovers and desires a certain tract of land shall have first rights on the survey of that land as long as he announces his intention to have it surveyed as soon as possible (Council Journals, Mar. 16, 1732).

Inasmuch as surveyors were responsible for filing their surveys in the surveyor general's office, landowners were obliged to trust their work and diligence in carrying out their duties. Occasionally, surveyors failed to register the correct location on a plat of survey, resulting in a grant of land other than the one the landowner thought he was claiming (e.g., Council Journals, May 22, 1747; Mar. 16, 1749). In one instance, a deputy surveyor submitted an entirely different plat of survey for a tract of land four miles from the one the customer had claimed (Council Journals, Jan. 29, 1745). In such cases, Council normally took immediate action in granting the original claim and usually did not recommend disciplinary action against the surveyor. Although the Council Journals do not provide details on the cases

cited, Council's reluctance to penalize the surveyors involved suggests that most mistakes of this type were attributed to unintentional error rather than fraudulent behavior. The Council Journals do contain several petitions from settlers complaining of fraud, or openly negligent behavior of surveyors, but not enough details are provided to reveal the exact nature of the complaints (Council Journals, Apr. 14, 1736; July 4, 1749; Nov. 24, 1767; Oct. 10, 1770; Sept. 3, 1771). Furthermore, Council dismissed only one deputy surveyor in the cases cited.

Perhaps the most serious complaint about surveyors was their neglect to survey all boundaries of a parcel of land. This issue initially came before Council in 1733 during the tenure of Surveyor General James St. John. A report by a commission set up to investigate irregular activities by the surveyor general's office revealed that two deputy surveyors, James Ferguson and William Staples, had committed gross negligence in the survey of ten parcels of land. These two surveyors had laid out mostly large lots (eight were 1,700 acres or more), without the benefit of a complete traverse survey. According to the commissioners, one particular tract of 4,000 acres had a line three miles in length bounding on vacant land without a single marker. Plats for several of the other tracts showed the same irregularity. Further testimony indicated that these lands had actually been surveyed

during the proprietary period and that Ferguson and Staples were merely doing resurveys. Council admonished the two deputies, as well as James St. John for certifying the plats, but no one was asked to resign his position (Council Journals, ND, #5, Pt. 1: 372-74). Considering St. John's troubles with the Council during his tenure, one cannot tell whether Staples's and Ferguson's actions were typical or whether they were victims of the controversy.

The sample included 12 percent or 108 landholdings that were surveyed on only two sides or not all. More than 57 percent of these, however, were surveys of marsh or swamp lowlands--areas that colonial surveyors were not required to traverse. In 1742, the problem of incomplete surveys apparently was persistent enough for Council to order that an expressed warning against this practice be included in the general set of instructions to deputy surveyors (Misc. Records, Book FF: 11).

Furthermore, Peter Freneau, a former Secretary of State, specified in a letter dated 1795 that incomplete surveys were one of the primary causes of land disputes in the state. He specifically noted that, in the latter part of the colonial period, surveyors customarily surveyed a boundary around a large body of land containing a number of previously granted tracts. Then, they would simply estimate the amount of vacant land in between the occupied

areas. without benefit of a complete survey (Letter to William Scarsborough, Jr., Private Papers, Box 9).

These examples point out instances in which South Carolina's surveyors were guilty of gross negligence and fraudulent behavior. Unquestionably, this was a persistent problem throughout the colonial period, but available evidence does not indicate that it was widespread. Other inherent problems associated with colonial surveying, such as poor instruments and inexact techniques, as well as the general attitude toward achieving quick results with little attention to detailed accuracy, permitted the existence of a system of cadastral surveying destined to produce a certain number of boundary disputes.

Common Land Disputes and Resolutions

By the mid-1800s South Carolina's settlers were forced more often to occupy land contiguous to previously claimed grants. As surveyors endeavored to find old boundary lines and markers, the weaknesses of the colonial land survey system were manifested in increasing numbers of property disputes.

Problems confronting nineteenth-century surveyors as they tried to make sense out of the work done by their predecessors prompted one

deputy surveyor, Thomas P. Cooper (1854), to compile a digest of court cases relating to land disputes as a guide for his colleagues. Many disputes abstracted in the digest result from neither the activity of surveyors nor from the land survey system. Some were caused by landowners, others were precipitated by the legal rules of ownership and title. Only those relating to the survey procedure will be reviewed here. Of these, two broad categories can be identified: disputes involving irregular surveying practices discovered in the location of old boundaries; and disputes pertaining to the survey of physical features such as rivers, swamps, and marshes. By reviewing cases that established precedents in these matters, we can gain insight into the survey system and perhaps infer the intentions of the original surveyor. Some cases involved surveys made after 1776, but surveying practices and policies differed little from those of earlier decades, so conclusions would be valid for the colonial period.

Disputes Involving Surveying Practices

Most disputes concerning surveying practices resulted either from the original surveyor's failure to lay out all boundaries of a landholding or from his inexactness in compiling the plat. The cases reviewed here necessarily emphasize the worst of South Carolina's surveyors, but the court's attitude

toward the proper conduct of surveyors and the hierarchy of admissible evidence in locating old boundaries allows one to infer the way the system was expected to work.

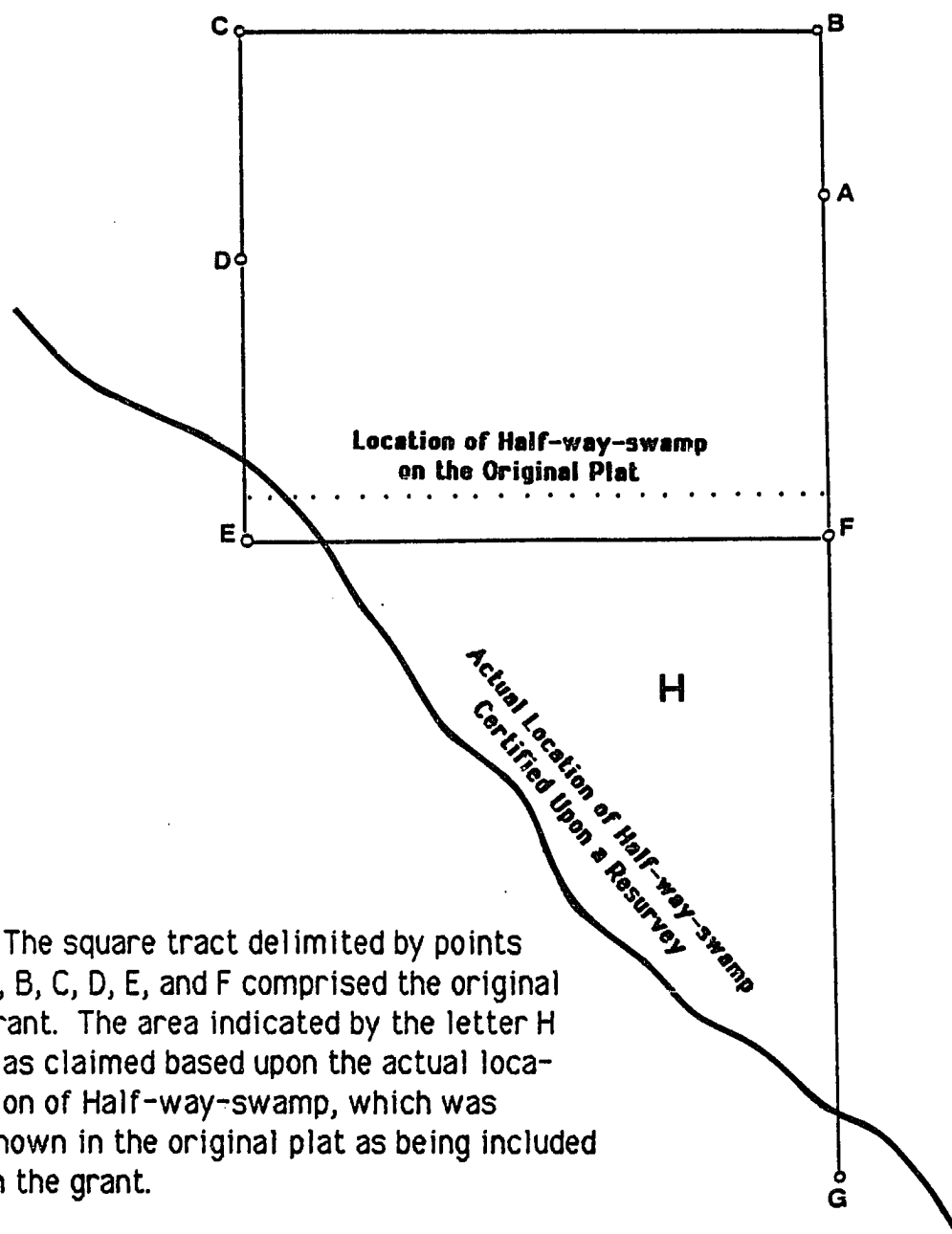
In order to establish the legal rules of location, the courts endeavored to discern the intention of the original surveyor. Plats represented the best and most obvious evidence, even though it was recognized that they were often incomplete. Presumably most plats were drawn from notes made by the surveyor in the field, and mistakes in the re-creation on paper of the landholding's dimensions and form were inevitable. Thus, the first rule of location recognized the primacy of monuments or markers identified in the landscape. As a matter of convention this rule had been followed by surveyors throughout the colonial period and was listed as early as 1733 as part of the instructions to deputy surveyors upon their commission (Misc. Records, Book DD: 72).

Subsequent court cases added refinements to this first rule of location, permitting a consideration of different situations and types of monuments used by surveyors. The case between William Colclough, et al., and Charles Richardson, et al. (1821), established a comprehensive set of rules for locating old boundaries and the rationale (or priority) by which they should be followed: first, natural features should govern because they are the most

permanent and certain; then artificial marks should be considered; and, finally, the course and distance of the lines indicated on the plat should govern. If, however, it could be demonstrated that natural features or artificial markers were inserted by mistake, or were put down without the benefit of actual survey, or did not in fact exist, or were found at such a distance from other marks of location as to render them unreasonable to be presumed correct, then course and distance would prevail. The *Colclough v. Richardson* case established, for example, the distinction between a water-course used as a boundary and one that merely runs through the tract. "In the first case experience shows that they [the water-courses] are laid down with more attention to rule, and in the latter case very many are found to be laid down by mere conjecture" (*Colclough v. Richardson*, 1821: 170). The court noted further that a correct location would consist of the application of these rules so as to be most consistent with the *intention* of the lines drawn on the plat.

A complete review of the *Colclough v. Richardson* case is useful in showing how these rules were applied to interpret and support the intent of the original surveyor. According to the evidence presented in the case, the surveyor actually surveyed only the lines from points A to B, to C, and to D (Figure 5-1). The remaining lines from points D to E, to F, and to A, indicated

FIGURE 5-1

AN OUTLINE OF THE COLCLOUGH V. RICHARDSON DISPUTE

The square tract delimited by points A, B, C, D, E, and F comprised the original grant. The area indicated by the letter H was claimed based upon the actual location of Half-way-swamp, which was shown in the original plat as being included in the grant.

SOURCE: ADAPTED FROM A PLAT IN COLCLOUGH ET AL V. RICHARDSON, ET AL. 1McCORD 167 (S.C. 1822).

on the plat, had never been laid out. Further, a small creek known as Half-way-swamp, represented on Figure 5-1 as a dotted line, was shown running parallel just within the line E to F. In fact, however, a resurvey showed the creek extending from points E to G. In addition, the original grant for the square tract extending from A to B, to C, to D, to E, and to F was for 200 acres; the resurvey calculated 255 acres for the tract. The plaintiff in the case wished to extend his property line from point F to G, in order "to preserve the creek as a natural boundary." The court sided against the plaintiff and concluded that the surveyor had intended the tract to be square, and that he had added the creek "only by conjecture."

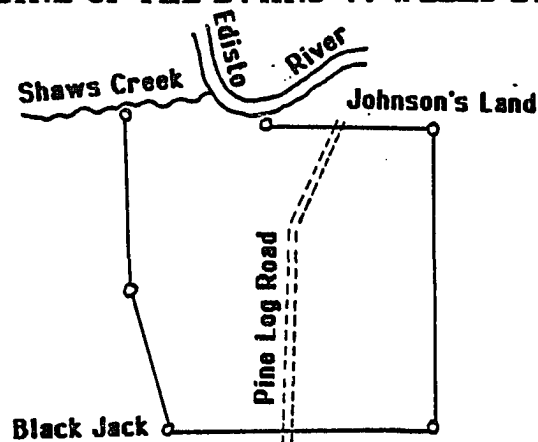
Although the court, in the Colclough v. Richardson case, mentioned the fact that the acreage (255 acres) contained in the final lot was close to the initial grant size (200 acres), this was not a primary consideration in the judgment. The shape of the landholding on the plat was much more persuasive evidence of the surveyor's intent. In this regard, the judge and jury appeared simply to accept errors (instrument or human) that might cause the actual amount of acreage to differ from the original grant.

The rules for locating old boundaries were expanded in 1833 by the Wash v. Holmes case, which recognized contiguous boundaries of older grants and the shape of the landholding indicated on the plat as other important

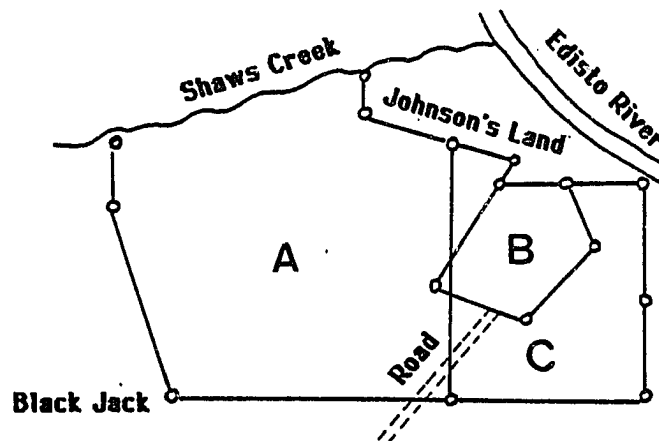
elements of location. This case also presented an interesting observation concerning the court's attitude toward the plat. The primary evidence of location in the dispute consisted of identifiable monuments in the landscape; but, when these markers did not seem consistent with the intentions of the surveyor, the court recognized the plat as the ultimate indication of his intentions, especially regarding the shape of the landholding. Even though the plat could not represent exactly the activities of the surveyor, it did provide a valuable guide to his intentions.

Although the courts tried to enforce this logical set of rules regarding the location of landholdings in South Carolina, the mediators of land disputes always held to the tenet that location is a question of evidence, and that sometimes the rules could not apply in a preferred order. Especially when the original surveyor apparently made only a "house survey" (at his kitchen table), the courts were forced to presume what he had intended according to his plat, even though the plat did not represent reality. This is precisely the problem outlined in the *Evans v. Weeks* (1852) appeals case. In the initial hearing of the case, the jury followed the rules of location in the order that had been established by earlier cases. In doing so, however, the boundaries of an adjacent property owner were followed and the defendant in the case (*Weeks*) lost possession of his junior (later) grant (Figure 5-2). *Weeks*

FIGURE 5-2

AN OUTLINE OF THE EVANS V. WEEKS DISPUTE

EVANS' ORIGINAL PLAT



EVANS' PLAT RE-CREATED BY THE COURT UPON A RESURVEY

A-Extent of Evans' grant based upon the course and distance of the lines on his original plat.

B-Weeks' junior (or later) grant.

B + C-Land that Evans claimed based upon the use of the Edisto River as part of his northern boundary.

Johnson's land was surveyed prior to both Evans' and Weeks' landholdings.

Source: Adapted from a sketch in *Evans v. Weeks*. 6 Richards 83 (S.C. 1852).

appealed this decision and the court granted the appeal based upon the following conclusions:

1. The surveyor did not actually survey the senior grant, which, upon the jury's re-creation, excluded the defendant's junior grant.
2. Although the original senior plat called for the Edisto River as the northern boundary, the course and distance of the lines indicated on the plat did not in reality reach the river; the location of the river was only presumed by the surveyor.
3. "It sometimes might occur, that an inferior means of location might control a higher, when it was plain there was a mistake" (Evans v. Weeks, 1852: 90). In this case, course and distance were permitted to prevail over the location of a natural boundary (the Edisto River).

In the Evans v. Weeks case, the plat essentially became the primary item of evidence, even though the surveyor compiled it only by conjecture.

In both the first and the appeal hearings, the jury and the court painstakingly attempted to re-create a landholding in reality based upon the marks included on the plat.

Survey Disputes Involving Physical Landscape Features

Another area of dispute among landowners in South Carolina concerned the interpretation of a surveyor's intentions regarding natural features, such as islands, swamps, marshes, and rivers. Although many rules applied to the survey of riverine and other water front lots, no guidelines existed regarding the ownership of ocean or river bottoms. The proprietors had specifically ordered that all inhabitants have free access to any "Seas . . . Creeks Rivers Riverlets . . . in ye sd Province of Carolina" (Shaftesbury Papers: 48-49). This order was vague, however, and at various times settlers petitioned Council and were granted riverine or coastal subsurface land. In 1771 John Campheys, for example, asked for and received a grant for a lot extending "200 feet . . . from the low water mark into the Bed of Cooper River" in Charleston (Council Journals, Sept. 3, 1771). In another case, John Mulyne petitioned for and was granted a lot in Beaufort extending from the high water mark as far out into Port Royal River as was necessary to build a wharf. Mulyne justified his request by stating that all the "front" lots in the town had already been granted (Council Journals, May 30, 1744). Thus, Mulyne's grant of river bottom actually bounded inland, at the high water mark, on someone else's property.

The ownership of rivers, in particular, continued to be debated

throughout the royal period despite the constant rulings of Council regarding the definition of a river for surveying purposes. In a dispute over ownership of the Enoree River (*Cates v. Wadlington*, 1822), the court decided that property rights could extend to the center of the river bed, if the river was not at present navigable, even though it was capable of being made navigable. An unnavigable river was defined by the court as one in which natural obstructions prevented the passage of boats of any description. Furthermore, according to the ruling of this case, if the obstructions were removed and the river became navigable, the legislature could not declare the river to be a public highway. In such an instance, "the public may use the waters for the purposes of navigation; but that does not impair the right of the individual to the soil and the use of the water, as far as it is consistent with the right of the public" (*Cates v. Wadlington*, 1822: 580).

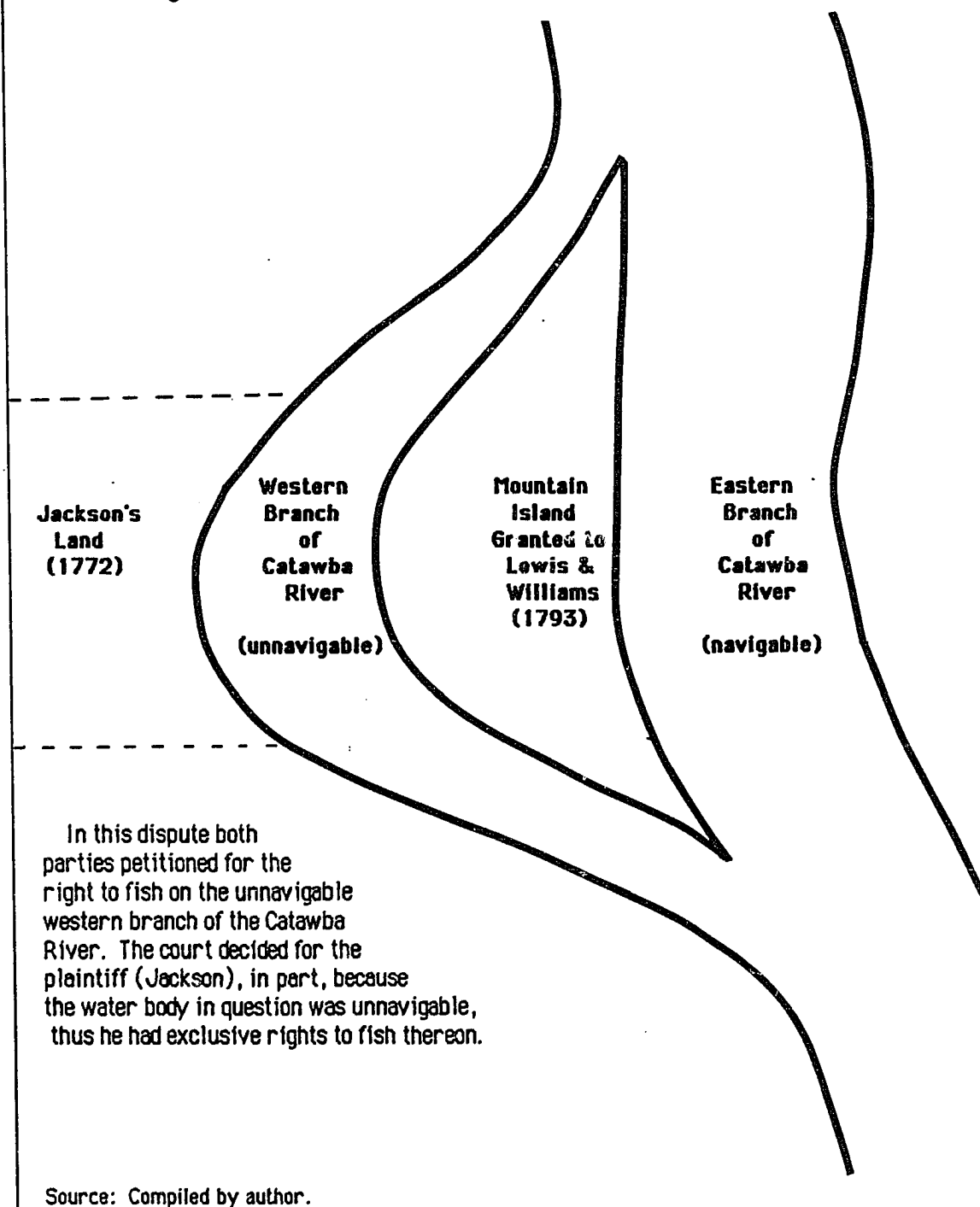
Without a doubt, this was a far-reaching decision that initiated many similar disputes, especially as it did not reflect surveying practices in the colonial period. Not one plat in this study showed, or even suggested, that a riverine property boundary extended into the water. In the *Cates v. Wadlington* case, the court did not consider the technical definition of a river adopted in 1768 (more than 50 years earlier) for surveying purposes: "a stream of constant running water nine feet wide and twelve inches deep"

(Misc. Records, Book NN: 99). Although the case provided a definitive opinion regarding property rights of river bottoms, the vague definition of a river adopted by the court, as well as the lack of marks on plats to indicate the surveyors' intentions, continued to create additional disputes over the ownership of rivers.

In 1840 the "Law of Navigable Rivers" was considered again by the state court. The essence of the dispute in the Jackson v. Lewis and Williams (1840) case was whether a branch of the Catawba River, which was separated from the main channel of the river by an island, could be claimed for private ownership (Figure 5-3). The court decided that the western branch of the Catawba River was subject to grant simply because it had never been used for boat passage. But the court made no attempt to produce a clear definition of a navigable river, and, by its opinion, seemed to muddle the concept even more by allowing the private ownership of an unnavigable *part* of a navigable river. This case is significant because it illustrates the complexities that arose from the common law interpretation of the survey and ownership of physical features on the landscape.

Many of the cases regarding the issue of navigable rivers involved grants of land in the upcountry of South Carolina, where the navigation of water courses was more questionable. In a case involving the Catawba River

FIGURE 5-3

**AN OUTLINE OF THE
JACKSON V. LEWIS AND WILLIAMS DISPUTE**

again, the court issued a comprehensive set of rules regarding the survey of riparian land (*McCullough v. Wall*, 1850). The following summarizes the judgment:

1. A grant of land bounded by a river not technically navigable extends to the "medium filum aquae," notwithstanding a survey directed and made of only the land not covered by water.
2. Islands in rivers should be divided between two landowners appropriately as though underwater. If the island has been lawfully granted, then the boundaries between landowners would extend to the middle of each branch of the river on either side of the island.
3. The extent of a proprietor's ownership in a river is measured by lines perpendicular to the bank, without regard to the course in which the lines of his tract run to the river.
4. Ownership of riparian soil gives the exclusive right to fish thereon.

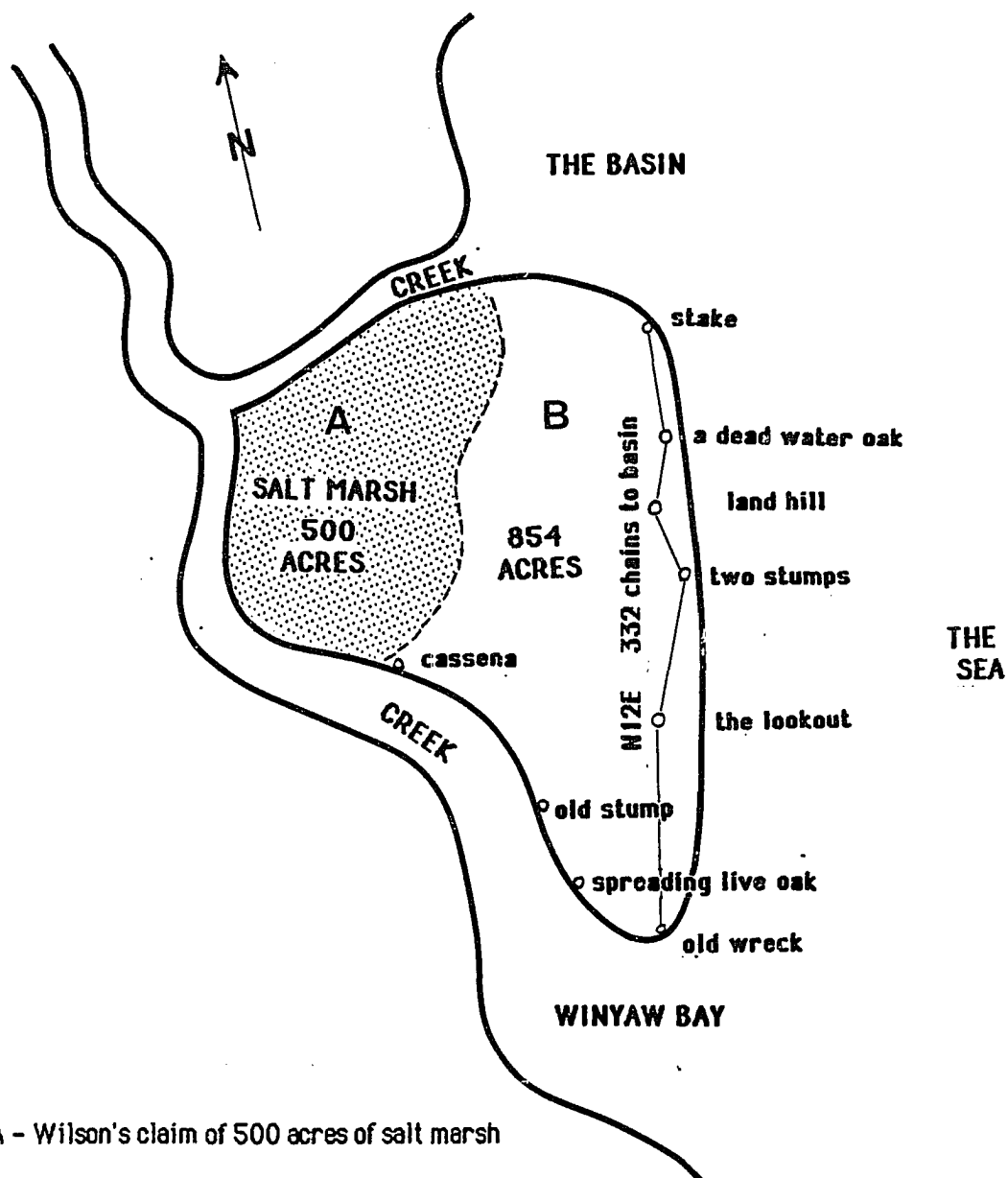
In addition, the court issued a significant opinion concerning the question of what constituted a navigable river, specifically in the upcountry region of South Carolina: "The Court is not likely to extend the rules which apply to rivers technically navigable, to any rivers above the falls which naturally obstructed and servicable use of the water for transportation"

(McCullough v. Wall, 1850: 69). It appears from this statement that the courts would not apply the rules for navigable rivers to any portion of a river in the state that was located above the Fall Line.

Marshes also represented a physical feature where the intentions of the original surveyor often were obscure, especially in surveys done in the proprietary and early royal periods. The case of *Trapier v. Wilson* (1822) particularly exemplifies this problem. The plaintiff (Trapier) had filed a caveat to prevent a new grant of marsh land on an island that he claimed, based on a grant dated May 11, 1739. According to the plat, the original surveyor had indicated specific monuments on at least two sides of the island, while concurrently in the grant he had called for natural features surrounding the island to delimit the landholding (Figure 5-4). The defendant (Wilson) had filed for a grant on marsh land located on the western side of the island. He supported his claim by noting specific markers on the plaintiff's plat, which he said indicated the surveyor's intended course and distance of the landholding's boundary. Based on this reasoning, the defendant presumed the inner edge of the marsh, indicated by the surveyor's marks, to represent the plaintiff's boundary, thus the lowland from this boundary to the water's edge legitimately could be claimed. The court found for the plaintiff in the case, stating that the

FIGURE 5-4

AN OUTLINE OF THE TRAPIER V. WILSON DISPUTE



A - Wilson's claim of 500 acres of salt marsh

B - Trapier's grant envisioned by Wilson to exclude the salt marsh

A + B - Trapier's grant based on the court's decision that,
because the original plat called for "The North Island,"
all of the land including the salt marsh belonged in the grant

Source: Compiled by author.

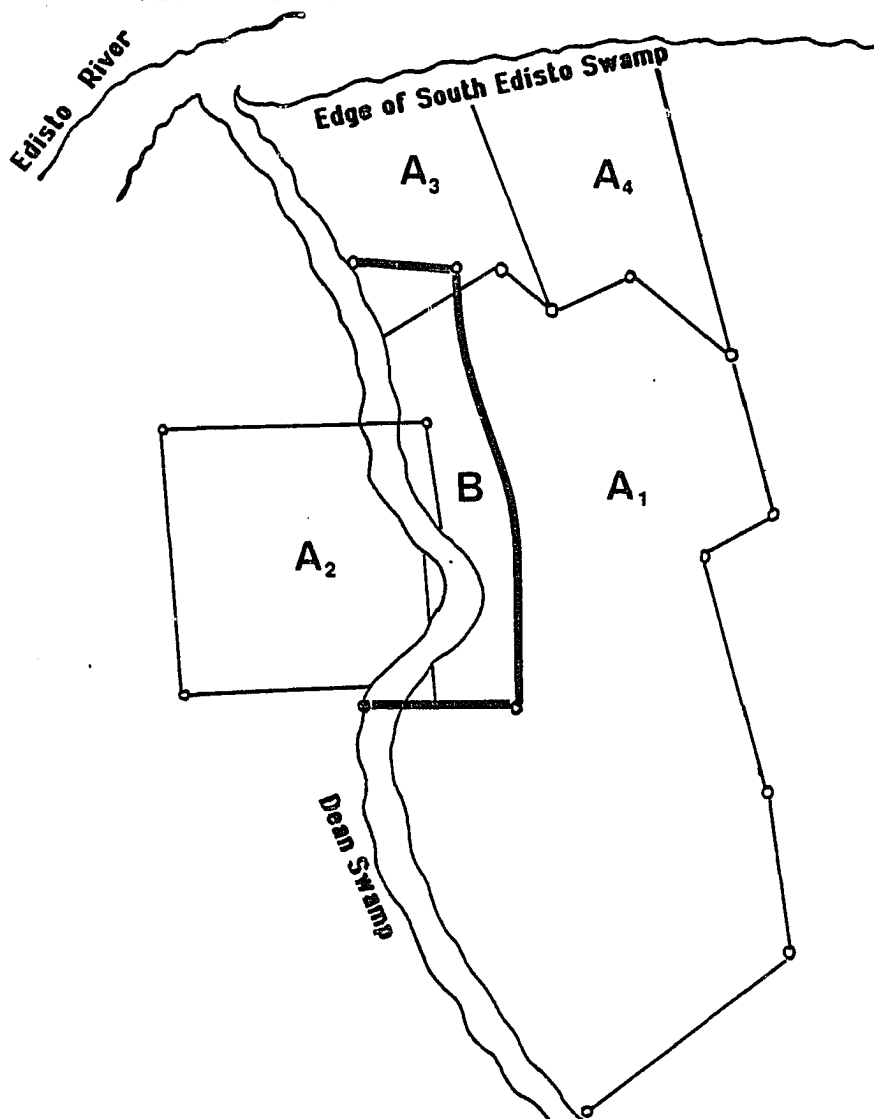
original surveyor had called for "The North Island," and apparently had intended for *all* of it to be included in the grant.

In the metes and bounds system of survey, physical features commonly were delineated and accepted as boundaries without the benefit of any other monuments or markers. This principle clearly was demonstrated in the previous *Trapier v. Wilson* dispute. Disagreements arose when there was some question as to the definition or location of these features on the landscape. In South Carolina, for example, water bodies running through swamps were commonly labeled as "swamp" rather than creek, river, stream, etc.; but, lowlands along larger rivers also were referred to as "swamps." Thus, if a surveyor, for example, called for "Green Swamp" as the boundary of a landholding, it would be necessary to ascertain which situation he was referring to: whether he intended the line to extend to the main stream of a swamp, or to the inland edge of the low marshy area that frequently is found adjacent to a major river.

This issue was debated before the court in the *Felder v. Bonnett* (1841) case (Figure 5-5). On the one hand the plaintiff (Felder) argued that his landholding extended to the main stream of a swamp, whereas the defendant (Bonnett) argued that because no monuments could be found, the original surveyor intended the property to extend only to the inland edge of

FIGURE 5-5

AN OUTLINE OF THE FELDER V. BONNETT DISPUTE



A₁-A₄ - Lands claimed by Felder through the purchase of various grants.

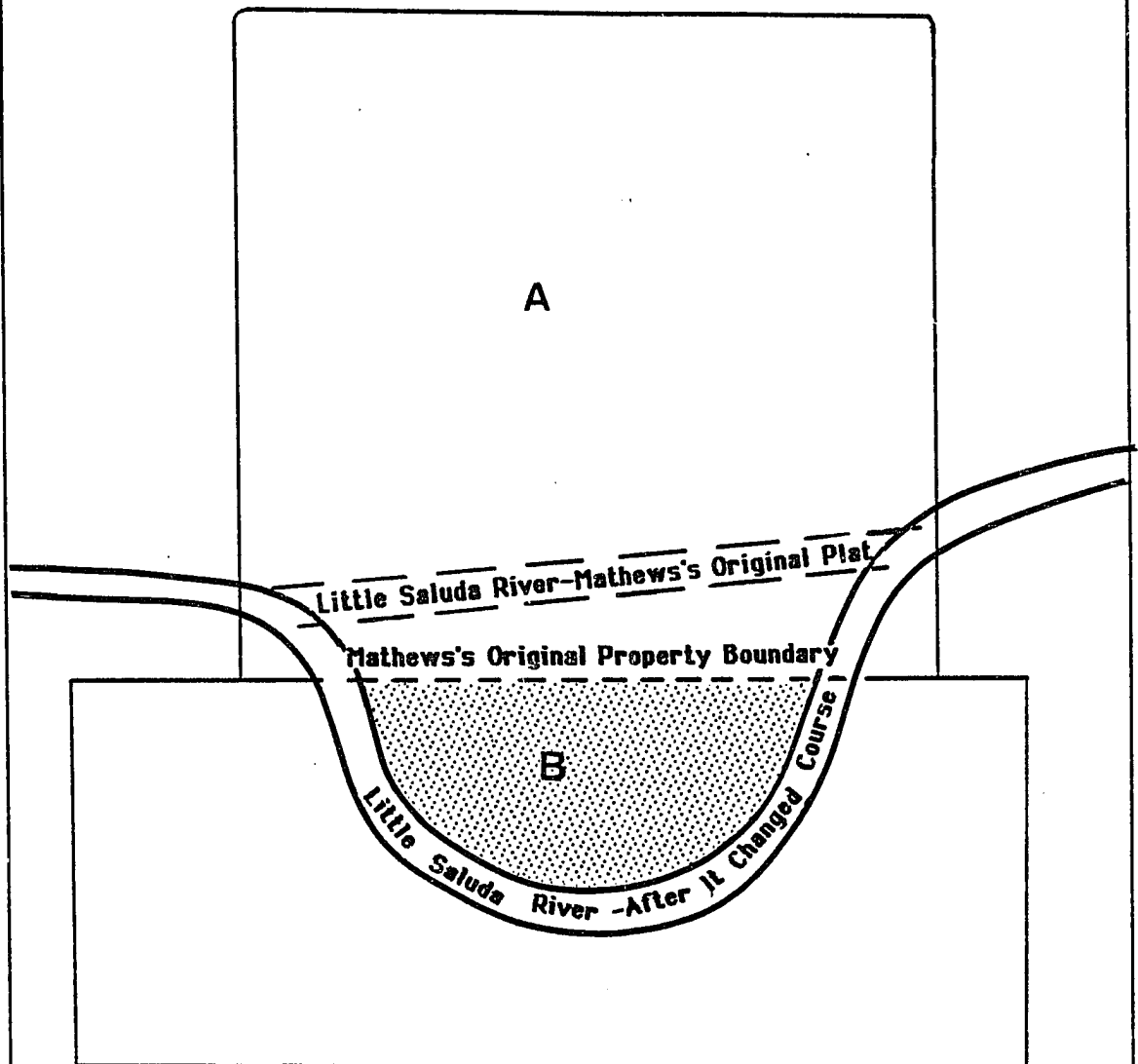
B - Bonnett's claim based on the surveyor's description of Felder's A₁ tract as extending to Dean's Swamp. Bonnett argued that this meant the inland edge of the low swampy land, rather than the main flowing stream in the swamp.

Source: Adapted from a sketch in *Felder v. Bonnett*. 2 McMullen 43 (S.C. 1841).

the swamp. Thus, the land from this edge to the stream could legitimately be claimed. The first judgment of this case was found in favor of the defendant, but an appeal was won by the plaintiff. In the appeal hearing, the judge noted specifically the differential treatment given by the surveyors to creeks in swamps *versus* swamps associated with rivers. In the former instance, the surveyor described and drew "Dean Swamp" on the plat as a run or creek in the swamp. In the latter case the surveyor noted clearly that the boundary of the landholding was the "edge of South Edisto Swamp," which was located along the Edisto River.

Another problem associated with using physical features such as rivers and creeks for boundary markers is that their location through time is not static. Eventually the courts in South Carolina were forced to consider this issue as related to property boundaries. In the case of *Coats v. Mathews* (1819) a dispute was precipitated when the Little Saluda River changed its course and was no longer located within the bounds of the defendant's (Mathews) landholding (Figure 5-6). The defendant wished to extend his property lines at least to the new location of the river, resulting in a trespass on the plaintiff's (Coats) property. The courts sided with the defendant in both the first and appeal hearings. The judgments were based upon the following factors:

FIGURE 5-6

AN OUTLINE OF THE COATS V. MATHEWS DISPUTE

A - Mathews's original grant

B - Area of Coats's property claimed by Mathews after a shift in the course of the Little Saluda River.

Source: Compiled by author.

1. The original surveyor intended the defendant's tract to include all of the land north of the river and the court wished to maintain this intent.
2. The original surveyor did not actually mark the lines south of the river and, in the absence of any other monuments, the river as a natural boundary should prevail over the course and distance of the lines.

This decision is significant because it illustrates an essential characteristic of the metes and bounds system of survey, i.e., the reliance on natural markers to delimit property boundaries. The courts were especially wary of "bad instruments and innumerable errors," which rendered many surveys uncertain. One element that could be relied upon, however, was the relatively constant and sure location of natural boundary markers. In the *Coats v. Mathew* case, when the river's location changed, the courts simply upheld tradition by locating the boundary of the landholding along the new course. That course and distance of the lines were the last evidence to be used in property disputes demonstrates the court's attitude toward the possibility of instrument error. This problem, however, was rarely given as the cause of incorrectly placed boundaries.

Summary

The weaknesses of the metes and bounds survey system were manifested in a variety of land disputes, especially in the nineteenth century when settlers began to fill in the last of the vacant lands in the state. Some causes of inexact property boundaries included instrument error, surveyor error, lost monuments, and the difficulty of interpreting the intentions of the original surveyors. Perhaps the most serious cause of property disputes was the negligence of surveyors to research existing property claims and to completely mark out a tract of land. Many of the cases discussed in this chapter came to litigation because there were no markers to delineate property boundaries. The monuments may have been lost, or faded out through the decades, but the courts seemed convinced that many lines simply had not been run out. The survey of physical features also resulted in a number of property disputes. Swamps, marshes, rivers, and submerged land commonly were areas of litigation, especially as attitudes toward claiming them changed through time.

In an effort to settle property disputes, the courts always attempted to discern the intentions of the original surveyor. Thus, the plats drawn by surveyors became important pieces of evidence, even though they did not always represent reality. Because acreage amounts and the course and

distance of the lines shown on the plat were often subject to skepticism, physical landmarks noted on the plat represented the surest evidence of the surveyor's intention. A landholding's shape as shown on the plat also was of prime consideration regarding the intentions of the surveyor.

ENDNOTES

1. Examples of colonial surveying instruments are on display at the Smithsonian Museum of American History and Technology, Washington, D. C. One small, crude, wooden circumferentor used in Virginia dated from the late seventeenth century. The exhibit, detailing the evolution of surveying instruments in the colonies, shows larger, more modern and undoubtedly more accurate circumferentors by the mid-1700s.
2. These were the only citizens' petitions found regarding the misbehavior of surveyors in a careful perusal of the Council Journals from 1671 to 1774.
3. Even if true they could not be excused for their own failure to provide markers.

CHAPTER 6

CONCLUSION

Colonial South Carolina's cadastral pattern evolved as the product of a variety of factors. Foremost was the ability of settlers to choose the sites of their landholdings. This authority was limited, however, by official policies that prevented settlers from determining the size, shape, and quality of land in their grants. Expressed rules for surveying riparian and inland tracts in rectangular shapes resulted in a more regular pattern of landownership than is generally assumed in a metes and bounds survey. Land along rivers, especially in the middle and low countries of South Carolina, was occupied in narrow strips according to policy, thereby creating a long lot cadastral pattern. Inland tracts customarily were surveyed as squares. Indeed, square and oblong shaped landholdings were the rule rather than the exception. Within the guidelines of these and other policies, colonists nonetheless were permitted to occupy land in non-contiguous tracts resulting in a patchwork pattern of land tenure.

Settlement in South Carolina, however, was not unsystematic or indiscriminate, it simply lacked a rigid overall spatial framework. Rules for cadastral surveying existed and were followed by colonial surveyors, despite cadastre maps for later periods that appear to contradict this concept.

The metes and bounds survey system used in South Carolina was not haphazard or random. From the earliest settlement in 1670, surveyors used a magnetic compass and chain to mark out boundaries consistent with the intended shape and amount of acreage to which a settler was entitled. Boundary markers such as trees and topographical features were chosen on or very near to the lines laid out by surveyors.

Deputy surveyors in the colony were especially important to settlement because they essentially directed the land distribution system. As a whole, surveyor generals appointed to head the office were not skilled, experienced surveyors and probably functioned only as managers of their legion of deputy surveyors. Especially in the proprietary period, the office was filled with men who appear to have warranted political favors from the provincial government.

The techniques and instruments used by colonial surveyors were simple and inexpensive but often inexact. Because it was logistically easier for early surveyors to lay out rectangular shapes, their methods likely reinforced the

policies for such regularity promoted by colonial officials.

There may have been attempts by surveyors in the townships to survey not only regularly shaped landholdings, but also contiguous groups of lots, all with the same general compass orientation. The South Carolina State Archives has made available a computer list of all colonial loose plats, so a study of the landholdings in one specific township would be feasible and undoubtedly illuminating.

Surveyors not only performed a technical service for their patrons, but they also were asked frequently to assess the quality of the lands in their districts. When Council ordered them to include a proportional amount of profitable and unprofitable land in each survey, the surveyor's duty as land assayer was formalized. This order further limited the settlers' ability to take whatever land they wished. Indeed, the surveyor likely made the settler's selection more often than not, because he was expected to know where the best land might lie.

Changing conceptions of the profitability and usefulness of certain land types also affected the cadastral pattern in South Carolina. This was especially true regarding the subdivision of marsh and swamp lowlands. In the early years of settlement, these lands were viewed as undesirable wasteland, and considerable effort was made to have them excluded from

grants. In the 1730s and 40s, however, when marshes and swamps became favored sites for rice cultivation, the lowlands were eagerly sought by inhabitants of the province. This reversed sentiment resulted in a more complicated pattern of property ownership, as well as an increased number of land disputes, because surveyors throughout the colonial period commonly did not actually mark out these lowlands.

As South Carolinians began more often to claim contiguous properties, the weaknesses of the metes and bounds survey were revealed in increasing numbers of property disputes. Sources of survey errors included poor instruments, inexact techniques, and mistakes or miscalculations made by surveyors. Perhaps the most serious cause of dispute and the one most commonly brought to litigation was the surveyor's failure to completely mark out a parcel of land or to field check previous claims as well as his own work. This was a persistent problem in South Carolina during the colonial period, although evidence does not indicate that it was widespread.

Instrument or surveyor error was rarely cited as cause for litigation in land disputes, so it is difficult to compare accurately how common each cause for dispute may have been. Indeed, the lack of legal consideration toward instrument or human error leads one to conclude that disputes precipitated by these causes routinely were handled out of court or were infrequent.

Another major area of dispute among landowners involved claims on physical features such as swamp or marsh land, rivers, and riverine or coastal submerged land. Most such disputes appeared to result from changing ideas regarding their use.

Any cadastral pattern is determined by the settlement type and South Carolina's is no exception. Colonists chose initially to occupy land in isolated non-contiguous tracts, thereby creating oddly shaped parcels in between. The resulting patchwork pattern of landownership supports this fact. It is erroneous to assume, however, that this nonsystematic appearance reflects completely haphazard or helter skelter land apportionment. An accurate understanding of land acquisition can only be achieved from a historical point of view on a micro regional basis. Broad generalizations especially regarding lands occupied at different times and under different political jurisdictions lead to oversimplification and incorrect assumptions.

This study provides the groundwork for innumerable studies that might follow. In particular, a detailed examination of the cadastral pattern in one South Carolina parish or township would strengthen the arguments put forth here. A comparative study of two separate areas in the colony, perhaps one along the coast and one in the middle country, would further substantiate ideas regarding the influence of land types on the cadastral pattern. Finally,

this study only initializes a detailed examination of the work of individual surveyors. More research would demonstrate precisely their role in the land acquisition process. Again, a micro view of one specific area would accomplish this.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

DATA FROM THE SAMPLE PLATS

Appendix I is a computerized description of the coded data gleaned from the sample plats. The plats are arranged chronologically by survey year and then alphabetically by surveyors. Other information listed for each plat includes:

warrant date

survey date

location-general or specific as given on the plat

compass orientation category - square shapes only

amount of acreage

survey techniques - arrow, compass rose, platting scale
or bar scale drawn on the plat

boundary type - number of sides bounded by adjacent
grants

land type - swamp, marsh, etc.

type of monuments used - evergreen or deciduous trees,
stake, or the word *corner*

if land quality is noted

shape of landholding

The codes used on the list to designate this information are explained on the following page.

Code Explanations

PLATNUM - Plat Number in the Sample

WMO - Warrant Month

WARRANTYR - Warrant Year

SMO - Survey Month

SURVEYR - Survey Year

SURVEYOR - Surveyor

LOCATION - Location Codes for Precise Locations Given on the Plat:

Counties

BER - Berkeley County

BEA - Berkeley County w/additional location

COL - Colleton County

COA - Colleton County w/ additional location

CRV - Craven County

CRA - Craven County w/additional location

GRV - Granville County

GRA - Granville County w/additional location

PRC - Port Royal County

Townships and Other Frontier Communities

AME - Amelia Township

ALT - Altamaha

BEL - Belfast/Londonderry

BON - Boonesborough

CHE - Cheraws District

DOR - Dorchester

FBS - Fork of the Broad and Saluda Rivers

FRB - Fredricksburgh Township

HIL - Hillsborough

KIN - Kingston Township

LOC - Long Cane Settlement

NIS - Ninety Six

ORA - Orangeburgh Township

PUR - Purrysburgh Township

QUE - Queensborough Township

SAX - Saxa Gotha Township

Townships, etc. (cont.)**WEL - Welsh Tract****WMB - Williamsburgh Township****Parishes****ASP - All Saints Parish****JGC - St. James Goose Creek Parish****PFP - Prince Fredrick Parish****PGP - Prince George Parish****PWP - Prince William Parish****SBP - St. Bartholomew Parish****SGP - St. George Parish****SHP - St. Helena Parish****SJP - St. Johns Parish****SMA - St. Matthew Parish****SMP - St. Marks Parish****SPA - St. Pauls Parish****SPP - St. Peters Parish****STP - St. Thomas Parish****NOA - None of the Above, or No Location Given****COM - Compass Orientation Category (A, B, C, or N for Square Shapes Only)****ACRES - Acreage****BOUNTY - Bounty Grant?****SURVTECH - Surveying Techniques Used--As Indicated On the Plat****A - North Arrow?****R - Compass Rose?****# - Scale in Chains****D - Bar Scale Drawn On the Plat****BOUNDTYP - Boundary Type Category****VAS - Vacant All Sides****1SB - One Side Bounded By Adjacent Property Owner****2SB - Two Sides Bounded By Adjacent Property Owners****MSB - Many Sides Bounded (More Than Two)****ASB - All Sides Bounded By Adjacent Property Owners****ISL - Island**

Land Types and Monuments Used

(1 represents *indication of* and 0 represents *no indication of* on the plat)

SWAMP - Swamp Indicated By Name
 SWAMPQ - Swamp or Marsh Indicated By Symbol
 MARSH - Marsh Indicated By Name
 HIGHLAND - Highland Indicated By Name
 TOWNLOT - Plat of a Town Lot
 POND - Pond Indicated
 RIVER - River Indicated
 CREEK - Creek Indicated
 RIVMEAS - River Measurements Noted
 CRKMEAS - Creek Measurements Noted
 EVERGREN - Evergreen Trees Used as Monuments
 DECID - Deciduous Trees Used as Monuments
 CORNER - Use of the Word *Corner* as a Monument
 STAKE - Use of Stakes as Monuments
 UNUSUAL - Unusual Symbols Used on the Plat
 LTSYMBOL - Land Type Symbols Used on the Plat

SHAPE - Shape of Landholding

IR- Irregular
 RE - Rectangular (oblong)
 RI - Riverine Irregular (not oblong)
 RR - Riverine Rectangular (oblong)
 SQ - Square
 SS - Semi Square
 SR - Semi Rectangular (oblong)
 VR - Very Irregular (more than six sides)

DIF - Number of Months Difference Between Warrant and Survey Date

[illegible]

OB S	P L A T T N U M	W M M O	W A R R N T Y R	S M O	S U R V E Y R	S U R V E Y O R	J O C A T I O N	C O M	A C R E S	B O U N D T Y P	S W A M P	S W A M P O	M A R S H	H I G H L A N D	T O W N L U T	P O N D	R I V E R	C R E E K	R I V M E A S	C R K M E A S	E V E R G R E E N	D E C I D	C O R N E R	S T A K E	U N S U A L	J T S Y M B O L	L A N D O U	S H A P E	D I F	
47	014	12	1710	8	1711	BROUGHTON	COL	C	407	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	
48	873	12	1710	8	1711	BROUGHTON	BER	C	300	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
49	874	12	1711	8	1711	BROUGHTON	BEA	A	245	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
50	792	2	1714	3	1714	BROUGHTON	NOA	C	237	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
51	795	2	1714	7	1714	BROUGHTON	PRC	C	70	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
52	799	2	1714	8	1714	BROUGHTON	COA	A	418	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
53	793	6	1714	8	1714	BROUGHTON	COA	A	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
54	794	4	1714	8	1714	BROUGHTON	COA	B	509	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
55	797	3	1714	2	1715	BROUGHTON	NOA	C	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
56	796	6	1714	2	1715	BROUGHTON	COA	C	444	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
57	798	2	1715	4	1715	BROUGHTON	BER	B	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
58	801	9	1714	4	1715	BROUGHTON	CRV	C	250	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
59	774	4	1715	6	1716	YONGE	M	C	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30
60	867	4	1716	1	1717	YONGE	F	C	72	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
61	803	9	1714	5	1717	YONGE	F	C	300	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
62	872	5	1716	6	1718	PRIPP	J	C	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	94
63	802	3	1715	1	1723	BAYLY	J	C	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	42
64	382	12	1719	12	1723	BAYLY	J	C	440	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	502
65	381	12	1719	12	1723	BAYLY	J	C	640	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	502
66	461	12	1682	0	1724	BULL	M	C	313	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	999
67	886	0	1682	0	1724	BULL	M	C	420	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	999
68	804	2	1682	6	1724	BULL	M	C	643	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	319
69	805	8	1698	3	1725	FRIPP	J	C	1427	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	328
70	13	11	1716	4	1727	JAKIN	D	C	643	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	125
71	766	11	1716	11	1731	BAYLY	J	C	700	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	399
72	810	8	1698	11	1731	SHINTON	M	C	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
73	464	12	1731	12	1731	BAYLY	J	C	1540	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
74	736	12	1731	12	1731	BAYLY	J	C	1000	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
75	806	12	1731	12	1731	BAYLY	J	C	132	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
76	742	1	1732	1	1732	MILES	J	C	124	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
77	519	1	1732	2	1732	GODFREY	R	C	250	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
78	245	2	1732	2	1732	LANE	P	C	234	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
79	591	1	1732	2	1732	ROBERT	J	C	1250	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
80	739	12	1731	3	1732	BRYAN	H	C	653	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
81	199	1	1732	3	1732	FERGUSON	J	C	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
82	726	11	1731	4	1732	BRYAN	H	C	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
83	542	0	1731	4	1732	STEVENS	J	C	700	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
84	661	0	1731	4	1732	SHINTON	M	C	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
85	695	12	1731	5	1732	SHINTON	M	C	181	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
86	747	12	1731	5	1732	FERGUSON	J	C	150	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
87	204	5	1732	5	1732	HUNTER	J	C	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
88	12	0	1732	8	1732	SHINTON	M	C	1080	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
89	128	6	1732	10	1732	SHINTON	M	C	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
90	333	4	1732	10	1732	SHINTON	M	C	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
91	808	0	1732	10	1732	SHINTON	M	C	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
92	184	10	1732	11	1732	SHINTON	M	C	500	M8B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

OBS	PLANT NUMBER	WARRANT NUMBER	SURVEY NUMBER	SURVEY DATE	LOCATION	ACRES	BOUNTY	SURVEYOR	UNIT	SWAMP	SHAD	GLAND	TOH	POND	RIVER	CREEK	RIVER	CRACK	EVERGREEN	DECID	CORNER	STAKE	UNUSUAL	ITS	LAND	SHAPE	DIF
185	721	6	1738	7	1738	1738	LIVISTON	J	CRA	C	N	C	G	0R200	258	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
186	467	7	1738	8	1738	1738	PAWLEY	G	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
187	331	7	1738	9	1738	1738	PAWLEY	G	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
188	812	7	1738	10	1738	1738	PAWLEY	G	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
189	42	11	1739	12	1739	1739	HORRY	J	SJB	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
190	485	5	1739	13	1739	1739	PAWLEY	G	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
191	532	12	1736	14	1736	1736	WILLIAMS	A	WMB	C	C	C	VAS	00100	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
192	775	2	1739	15	1739	1739	BRYAN	H	WMB	C	C	C	VAS	00500	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
193	817	4	1739	16	1739	1739	LANE	P	CRA	C	C	C	VAS	00160	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
194	319	6	1741	17	1741	1741	PAWLEY	G	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00100	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
195	556	1	1741	18	1741	1741	PAWLEY	G	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
196	816	9	1740	19	1740	1740	PAWLEY	G	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
197	457	2	1741	20	1741	1741	CLIFFORD	T	NOA	C	C	C	VAS	00100	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
198	368	10	1735	21	1735	1735	HAIG	G	AME	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
199	668	3	1744	22	1744	1744	HAIG	G	AME	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
200	192	2	1745	23	1745	1745	GILLESPIE	J	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
201	269	5	1744	24	1744	1744	HAIG	G	AME	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
202	38	12	1746	25	1746	1746	HAIG	G	AME	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
203	667	2	1746	26	1746	1746	GILLESPIE	J	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
204	64	2	1744	27	1744	1744	GILLESPIE	J	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
205	288	3	1746	28	1746	1746	GILLESPIE	J	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
206	230	7	1733	29	1733	1733	LIVISTON	J	CRA	C	C	C	VAS	00100	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
207	395	9	1746	30	1746	1746	GILLESPIE	J	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
208	339	1	1747	31	1747	1747	LIVISTON	J	CRA	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
209	316	1	1747	32	1747	1747	FAURE	P	FRE	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
210	815	1	1740	33	1740	1740	LIVISTON	J	CRA	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
211	330	5	1740	34	1740	1740	GILLESPIE	J	NOA	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
212	131	2	1746	35	1746	1746	GILLESPIE	J	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
213	297	11	1747	36	1747	1747	GILLESPIE	J	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
214	598	4	1736	37	1736	1736	KERSLAKE	A	CRV	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
215	473	6	1748	38	1748	1748	FAURE	P	CRA	C	C	C	VAS	00100	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
216	110	4	1733	39	1733	1733	KERSLAKE	A	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00100	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
217	648	12	1748	40	1748	1748	KERSLAKE	A	WEL	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
218	776	3	1748	41	1748	1748	LIVISTON	J	CRA	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
219	818	7	1739	42	1739	1739	FAURE	P	CRA	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
220	98	7	1749	43	1749	1749	FAURE	P	AME	C	C	C	VAS	00200	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
221	769	9	1749	44	1749	1749	PEARSON	J	NOA	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
222	595	12	1733	45	1733	1733	FAIRCHILD	J	NOA	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
223	643	2	1748	46	1748	1748	FAIRCHILD	J	NOA	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
224	50	4	1747	47	1747	1747	FAIRCHILD	J	NOA	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
225	127	11	1749	48	1749	1749	FAIRCHILD	J	NOA	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
226	78	12	1748	49	1748	1748	FAIRCHILD	J	NOA	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
227	744	11	1749	50	1749	1749	FAIRCHILD	J	NOA	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
228	593	6	1749	51	1749	1749	FAIRCHILD	J	NOA	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
229	501	5	1750	52	1750	1750	FAIRCHILD	J	NOA	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
230	299	3	1749	53	1749	1749	FAIRCHILD	J	NOA	C	C	C	VAS	00000	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

OB S	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414		
PLA T N U M	441	22	300	342	673	446	515	311	302	755	191	202	54	630	708	758	275	352	522	474	283	530	407	182	392	503	373	167	295	575	831	370	722	707	161	442	680	549	290	552	463	687	148	66	215			
W A R R N T Y R	1760	1760	1760	1760	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1763	1762	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764			
S M O	10	11	12	12	3	5	7	9	9	8	3	3	6	8	8	10	10	11	11	12	12	12	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	7	9	11	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	5			
S U R V E Y Y R	1760	1760	1760	1760	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1762	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1763	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764	1764				
S U R V E Y Y O R	MANING	DOOLY	HAMELTON	PICKENS	BLTYHE	MCPHERSON	BOWEN	BLTYHE	DEAN	HENTIE	EVANS	PERRY	MANING	CURRY	PEARSON	WYLY	BELTON	BELTON	CALHOUN	MUSGROVE	PEARSON	PEARSON	HAMELTON	LEWIS	PEARSON	BELTON	EGAN	MUSGROVE	SMITH	LIVISTON	PERRY	JAMESON	BELTON	GIRARDEAU	JAMESON	BELTON	WYLY	FURMAN	LEWIS	THOMSON	FAIRCHILD	CALHOUN	GASTON	MUSGROVE	PICKENS	THOMSON		
S U R V E Y Y O R	R J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J	J J			
L O C A T I O N	SPP	CRV	NDA	GRA	PCP	GRV	GRA	GRV	NDA	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV	CRV			
C O M	C N	A C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C	C C		
A C R E S	17	150	200	276	250	69	500	235	300	300	300	50	400	300	300	50	350	250	400	200	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
B O U N D T Y P	VAS	VAS	188	138	288	M88	A88	288	288	188	188	288	VAS	VAS	VAS	288	VAS	VAS	188	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS	VAS
S U R V E C H	00000	A0200	A0200	00150	OR200	OR200	00000	A0200	00200	00000	OR200	OR200	A0000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	A0200	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	OR000	
B O U N T Y	17	150	200	276	250	69	500	235	300	300	300	50	400	300	300	50	350	250	400	200	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100		
S H A P E	IR	SD	SD	RR	RR	RR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR	IR		
D I F	02	10	10	00	00	00	08	05	10	00	10	00	15	11	11	11	11	11	12	00	05	11	13	13	16	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00		

OBS	PLAFNUM	WMHC	WARRNTYR	SMO	SURVEYR	SURVEYOR	LOCATIONS	ACRES	BOUNDTYP	SURVEYCH	BOUNDTY	HIGHLAND	FTOWNLOT	POND	RIVER	CRREEK	RIVMEAS	CRKMEAS	EVERGREEN	DECLID	CORNER	STAKE	UNSUBJAL	JTSMHDL	JLNDQU	SHAP	DIFF
507	24	2	1767	4	1767	WINN	J CRV	150	VAS	A0200	B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
508	162	2	1767	4	1767	HUMBELL	J CRA	150	VAS	A0000	A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
509	676	3	1767	5	1767	FAIRCHILD	J NOA	150	188	A0200	N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
510	453	1	1767	5	1767	GASTON	J CRA	100	MSB	00150	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
511	462	5	1767	5	1767	GLASCOCK	J CRA	100	MSB	00200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
512	719	1	1767	5	1767	HAMELTON	J NOA	100	VAS	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
513	47	1	1767	5	1767	HUMPHREYS	J CRA	500	188	A0000	N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
514	353	2	1767	5	1767	NELSON	J BGN	150	00000	VAS	N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
515	409	2	1767	5	1767	NELSON	J NOA	100	188	00000	N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
516	255	2	1767	6	1767	NELSON	J LOC	300	MSB	00000	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
517	369	2	1767	6	1767	NELSON	J LOC	250	MSB	00000	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
518	508	2	1767	6	1767	PICKENS	J GRV	250	MSB	00100	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
519	132	4	1767	6	1767	CALHOUN	P NOA	250	MSB	A0200	N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
520	143	6	1767	7	1767	GASTON	J CRA	450	MSB	A0200	B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
521	364	5	1767	7	1767	GLASCOCK	J CRV	200	VAS	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
522	97	5	1767	7	1767	GLASCOCK	J CRA	100	MSB	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
523	99	5	1767	7	1767	LIVISTON	J CRA	100	MSB	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
524	43	5	1767	7	1767	LIVISTON	J CRA	100	MSB	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
525	105	5	1767	7	1767	LIVISTON	J CRA	100	MSB	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
526	221	7	1767	7	1767	LIVISTON	J SAX	150	MSB	0R20D	N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
527	136	4	1767	7	1767	MITCHELL	J GRV	200	188	A0200	B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
528	636	2	1767	7	1767	PEARSON	E FBS	200	MSB	A0000	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
529	585	5	1767	7	1767	STROTHER	G BEA	150	MSB	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
530	841	2	1767	7	1767	WOFFORD	W FBS	300	MSB	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
531	602	2	1767	7	1767	CALDWELL	J HEA	100	VAS	A0000	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
532	232	3	1767	8	1767	GASTON	J CRA	100	MSB	00100	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
533	156	9	1767	9	1767	CALHOUN	P LOC	350	MSB	A0000	N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
534	176	6	1767	9	1767	CARSEN	J CRA	350	VAS	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
535	212	9	1767	9	1767	CURRY	J CRA	50	MSB	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
536	280	8	1767	9	1767	FAIRCHILD	J NOA	100	MSB	A0200	A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
537	415	6	1767	9	1767	FAIRCHILD	J NOA	100	VAS	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
538	491	9	1767	9	1767	NELSON	J NOA	100	MSB	00000	N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
539	504	9	1767	9	1767	PEARSON	J FBS	300	VAS	A0000	B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
540	588	9	1767	9	1767	PICKENS	J GRA	100	MSB	00100	N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
541	397	4	1767	9	1767	CALDWELL	J BER	100	VAS	A0000	B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
542	80	9	1767	10	1767	CALHOUN	P NOA	150	MSB	A0150	N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
543	540	9	1767	10	1767	HUMPHREYS	R CRA	100	VAS	A0200	B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
544	502	9	1767	10	1767	LIVISTON	J NOA	100	MSB	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
545	840	9	1767	10	1767	NELSON	J NOA	100	VAS	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
546	112	9	1767	10	1767	ELLISON	J NOA	150	MSB	A0200	B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
547	186	8	1767	11	1767	FORSTER	A COL	700	VAS	00000	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
548	166	11	1767	11	1767	MITCHELL	J CRV	100	MSB	A0200	N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
549	137	9	1767	11	1767	MITCHELL	J BEA	1000	VAS	A0200	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
550	765	9	1767	11	1767	NELSON	J NOA	400	MSB	A0000	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
551	725	6	1767	11	1767	ANDERSON	W COL	100	MSB	A0000	B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
552	16	12	1767	12	1767																						5

Q B S	P L A T T N U M	W A R R N T	S M O	S U R V E Y R	S U R V E Y Q R	L O C A T I O N	C O M	A C R E S	B O U N T Y	S U R V E C H	B O U N D T Y P	S W A M P	S W A M P Q	M A R S H	H I G H L A N D	T O W N L O T	P O N D	R I V E R	C R E E K	R I V E R E A S	C R K M E E A S	E V E R G R E E N	D E C I D	C O R N E R	S T A K E	U N S U A L	J T S Y M B O L	L A N D	S H A P E	D I F
783	590	9	12	1772	CUNINGHAM	P R COA	C	350	00000	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
784	486	12	12	1772	LANG	J CRA	A	100	00250	28B	28B	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
785	184	17	12	1772	LOVELESS	J CRA	A	100	00250	VAS	VAS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
786	422	12	12	1772	MCFADDEN	J GRV	N	150	A0200	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
787	90	11	12	1772	MURPHEY	J CRV	C	100	A0200	18B	18B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
788	32	1	1	1773	ARMSTRONG	P CRA	C	200	00000	ASB	ASB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
789	698	1	1	1773	CUNINGHAM	P COA	N	100	00000	18B	18B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
790	862	12	1	1773	ELLISON	R CRA	A	300	A0200	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
791	477	1	1	1773	KENNEDY	A CRA	A	250	A0000	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
792	642	12	1	1773	KIRKLAND	M COL	A	250	A0000	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
793	403	12	1	1773	MCFARLAN	M SGP	N	200	00200	28B	28B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
794	861	1	1	1773	THOMSON	J GRA	B	500	00000	VAS	VAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
795	296	11	1	1773	WOODCRAFT	R GRA	C	300	A0200	18B	18B	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
796	618	1	1	1773	ADAMS	F NOA	B	350	A0000	VAS	VAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
797	71	9	1	1772	CARSEN	W CRV	A	100	A0200	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
798	218	1	1	1773	CUNINGHAM	D CRV	A	200	00000	ASB	ASB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
799	400	1	1	1773	CUNINGHAM	J CRV	N	100	00000	28B	28B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
800	346	2	1	1773	DOWN	W GRA	C	100	A0200	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
801	272	2	1	1773	GOODE	H GRA	C	235	00000	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
802	516	2	1	1773	GOODE	W GRA	C	65	00100	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
803	517	2	1	1773	GOODE	T BER	C	750	A0000	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
804	639	1	1	1773	GREEN	J CRA	N	150	A0200	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
805	650	2	1	1773	LOVELESS	A CRA	A	250	A0200	VAS	VAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
806	49	1	1	1773	MCDONNELL	A CRA	A	250	A0200	VAS	VAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
807	583	1	1	1773	MCDONNELL	J BEA	B	450	A0200	VAS	VAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
808	111	1	1	1773	MURPHEY	S NOA	C	300	00200	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
809	757	2	1	1773	PEARSON	E BER	C	300	00000	ASB	ASB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
810	108	1	1	1773	PEARSON	J CRV	C	206	00000	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
811	65	1	1	1773	PINKERTON	J NOA	N	100	A0200	18B	18B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
812	76	2	1	1773	HOFFORD	J CRA	N	100	00000	28B	28B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
813	351	3	1	1773	CUNINGHAM	P CRV	N	100	00000	18B	18B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
814	93	1	1	1773	FAIRCHILD	J SPA	A	300	00000	18B	18B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
815	408	1	1	1773	JAMES	S CRA	N	200	00000	18B	18B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
816	617	3	1	1773	LOVE	N NOA	C	600	00000	ASB	ASB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
817	39	1	1	1773	PEARSON	E BER	N	350	A0000	18B	18B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
818	285	3	1	1773	PEARSON	E NOA	C	250	A0200	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
819	756	3	1	1773	FOUNCEY	A CRA	C	300	A0200	MSB	MSB	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
820	152	3	1	1773	WINN	M CRV	C	250	A0200	ASB	ASB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
821	68	2	1	1773	HOFFORD	J CRV	C	300	A0200	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
822	743	3	1	1773	HOFFORD	J CRV	C	100	A0200	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
823	174	1	1	1773	ARMSTRONG	J CRA	C	100	A0200	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
824	499	3	1	1773	ARMSTRONG	J COA	C	100	00000	VAS	VAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
825	490	2	1	1773	CUNINGHAM	H SMP	C	100	A0200	28B	28B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
826	77	4	1	1770	DOWNES	J NOA	N	200	A0200	VAS	VAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
827	674	12	1	1772	DOZER	J CRA	C	254	A0200	MSB	MSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
828	426	4	1	1773	ELLISON	J CRV	C	100	A0200	28B	28B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
					HENDERSON	J CRV	C	100	A0200	28B	28B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

DBS	PLATNUM	WAYO	WARRNTYR	SMO	SURVEYR	SURVEYOR	LOC	COH	ACRES	BOUNTY	SURVECH	BOUNTYP	SWAMP	SWAMP	SWAMP	HIGHLAND	TOWNLOT	POND	RIVER	CREEK	RIVER	MEAS	MEAS	GREEN	DECID	CORNER	STAKE	UNSUB	TSYMD	LAND	SHAPE	DIFF
875	627	7	1774	9	1774	WHITE	CRA	C	700	298	A0200	298	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2		
876	118	10	1774	10	1774	HEARD	CRA	C	600	298	A0400	298	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	17		
877	266	5	1773	10	1774	PINKERTON	CRA	B	300	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1		
878	621	10	1774	11	1774	PEART	SHR	B	500	198	A0400	198	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1		
879	185	11	1774	12	1774	COOKE	GRV	B	1000	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1		
880	233	12	1775	12	1775	HENDERSON	NOA	C	500	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
881	51	1	1775	2	1775	MOULTON	NOA	C	30	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1		
882	738	1	1775	2	1775	SEARIGHT	BEA	C	750	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1		
883	509	1	1775	2	1775	SIMPSON	CRA	C	370	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1		
884	567	3	1775	3	1775	LINDER	NOA	C	200	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
885	681	3	1775	3	1775	PURCELL	NOA	C	500	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
886	70	3	1775	3	1775	PURVIS	GRV	C	1500	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
887	133	3	1775	4	1775	CRAIG	POP	C	400	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
888	279	1	1775	4	1775	FURMAN	NOA	C	350	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
889	309	3	1775	4	1775	HOPKINS	NOA	C	100	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
890	475	3	1775	4	1775	POUNCEY	CRA	C	500	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
891	566	3	1775	4	1775	SEARIGHT	BER	N	1000	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
892	543	1	1773	4	1775	TURNER	CRA	C	200	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
893	234	10	1774	5	1775	BULLOCK	CRA	C	200	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
894	286	12	1772	5	1775	PEART	GRV	B	1000	00400	00400	198	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
895	396	3	1775	5	1775	WINN	GRV	B	500	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
896	41	1	1775	6	1775	BARRON	GRV	B	200	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
897	394	5	1775	6	1775	PEARSON	NOA	B	400	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
898	361	12	1774	6	1775	THOMSON	GRV	B	50	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
899	107	6	1766	6	1776	THOMSON	GRV	N	150	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
900	2	7	1776	9	1776	MUGROVE	GRV	C	200	00000	00000	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
901	656	12	1776	12	1776	PICKENS	LOC	C	100	00100	00100	00000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		

APPENDIX II
SOUTH CAROLINA'S COLONIAL SURVEYORS

<u>Surveyor Generals</u>		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Service</u>	<u>Source</u>
Florence O'Sullivan	1670-1671	<u>Shaftesbury Papers:</u> 195.
John Culpeper	1671-1673	<u>Shaftesbury Papers:</u> 298.
Maurice Mathews	1677-1684	<u>Records of the</u> <u>Secretary of the</u> <u>Province, 1671-</u> <u>1675:</u> 54.
Stephen Bull	1685-1691	<u>Shaftesbury Papers:</u> 192N.
Philip Ludwell	1691-?	Salley (1916): 43.
John Beresford	1695-1698	<u>Records of the</u> <u>Secretary of the</u> <u>Province, 1671-</u> <u>1675:</u> 456.
Edmund Bellinger	1698-1702	<u>BPRO-SC</u> , 4: 26.
Job Howes	1702-1707	<u>BPRO-SC</u> , 5: 84.
Thomas Broughton	1707-?	<u>BPRO-SC</u> , 5: 280.
Henroydah English	1715-?	<u>BPRO-SC</u> , 6: 71.
Francis Yonge	1718-1719	<u>BPRO-SC</u> , 7: 158.
William Blakeway	1719-?	<u>Misc. Records</u> , Book N: 99.
James St. John	1731-1743	<u>Misc. Records</u> , Book I: 48 (Mar. 22, 1731).
George Hunter	1743-1755	<u>BPRO-SC</u> , 21: 180- 183.
William DeBrahm	1755	<u>Misc. Records</u> , Book KK: 203 (Aug. 14, 1755).

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Service</u>	<u>Source</u>
Egerton Leigh	1755-1773	Commissions in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book LL: 592 (Feb. 17, 1762).

Deputy Surveyor Generals

Andrew Rutledge	1731	Plat for Thomas Clifford, 1731.
Benjamin Whitaker	1731	
John Gough	1743	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book EE: 365, May 25, 1743).
James Hunter, Jr.	1756	Plat for John Carr, 1756.
John Troupe	1765	Plat for John Clem, 1765.
James Berwick	1769	Plat for John Edwards, 1769.
Francis Bremar Became surveyor general in 1788.	1769	Plat for Henry Coats, 1769.
John Bremar	1769	Plat for Samuel Clegg, 1769.
James Hinds	1769	Plat for John Roberts, 1769.
James Purcell Drew exquisitely beautiful and detailed maps. Often commissioned to do resurveys for courts cases.	1773	Plat for Benjamin Moberly, 1773.
George Murray	1774	Plat for Peter Cree, 1774.

Deputy Surveyors

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1670-1699	John Culpeper	1671	<u>Shaftesbury Papers:285.</u>	Later became surveyor general.
	Stephen Bull	1673	Salley, 1907: 61-62.	Probably surveyed as early as 1670; later became surveyor general; a prolific surveyor.
	John Yeamans	1673	Salley, 1907: 61-62.	
	Stephen Wheelwright	1673	Salley, 1907: 61-62.	
	William Owen	1676	Salley & Olsberg, 1973: 119.	
	Job Howes	1689	Salley & Olsberg, 1973: 426.	
	James Jones	1689	Salley & Olsberg, 1973: 427.	
	Isaac Mazicq	1689	Salley & Olsberg, 1973: 582.	
	John Cliford	1692	Salley & Olsberg, 1973: 541.	
	James Witter	1694	Salley & Olsberg, 1973: 450.	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1700-1729	John Bayly	1722	Plat for Stephen Monk, 1722-28.	Surveyed many large grants after the land office closed in 1719.
	Joshua Sanders	1723	Plat for Stephen Monk, 1723.	
1730-1739	John Fripp	1731	Plat for Stephen Russell, 1731.	
	Robert Godfrey	1731	Plat for John Bee, Jr., 1731.	
	Henry May	1731	Plat for William Holman, 1731.	
	Hugh Bryan	1732	Commissions in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book DD:70 (1733) and Book FF:10 (Jan. 24, 1743). Plat for Thomas Graves, 1732.	
	Humphrey Hughes	1732	Plat for Benjamin Godin, 1732.	
	George Hunter	1732	Plat for James Graeme, 1732.	Later became surveyor general.
	Isaac Le Grand	1732	Plat for Peter Perdriau, Jr., ND, probably about 1732.	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1730-1739 (Cont.)	John Stevens	1732	Plat for Daniel Dean, 1732. Com- missions in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book DD:53 (Jul. 14, 1733) and Book HH:60 (Aug. 18, 1749).	
	James Robert	1732	Plat for Thomas Bar- tram, 1732. Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book KK:220 (Dec. 10, 1755) and Book KK:434 (Feb. 4, 1757).	
	William Swinton	1732	Plat for Othniel Beale, 1732. Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book II:274- 275.	Surveyed master plan of George- town, 1734.
	John Andrew	1733	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:16 (Jun. 15, 1733).	
	Mathew Drake	1733	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:24 (Jul. 6, 1733).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1730-1739 (Cont.)	James Ferguson	1733	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:66 (Sept. 8, 1733).	
	John Gough	1733	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD: 51 (Jul. 4, 1733).	Later be- came de- puty gen- eral.
	George Haig	1733	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD: 18 (Jun. 20, 1733) and Book EE:330 (May, 1743).	A very pro- lific sur- veyor, mainly in the town- ships of Amelia, SaxeGotha, and Orange- burg.
	Peter Lane	1733	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:13 (May 26, 1733).	
	William McPherson	1733	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:57 (Aug. 13, 1733) and Book EE:377 (Sept. 6, 1743).	
	John Miles	1733	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:63 (Aug. 14, 1733).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1730-1739 (Cont.)	John Ouldfield	1733	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:60 (Aug., 1733).	
	Alexander Robertson	1733	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:15 (May 30, 1733).	
	William Scriven	1733	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:55 (Aug. 9, 1733).	
	William Staples	1733	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:22 (Jun. 28, 1733).	
	William Stobo	1733	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:32 (Jul. 14, 1733).	
	Thomas Witter	1733	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:59 (Aug. 9, 1733) and Book FF:82 (Jun. 13, 1744).	
	Joseph Elliott	1734	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:150 (Sept. 13, 1734)	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1730-1739 (Cont.)	John Hentie	1734	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:101 (May 10, 1734) and Book KK: 410 (Oct. 30, 1756).	
	John Horry	1734	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:92 (Mar. 1, 1734).	
	Meredith Hughes	1734	Plat for Thomas Mor- ritt, 1734.	
	John Jameson	1734	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:99 (May 16, 1734).	
	Hugh Rose	1734	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:84 (Jan. 9, 1734).	
	Anthony Williams	1734	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:140 (Mar. 24, 1734).	
	Thomas Blythe	1735	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:162 (Nov. 5, 1735) and Book KK:220 (Oct. 17, 1755).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1730-1739 (Cont.)	John Dorsey	1735	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:152 (Sept. 11, 1735).	
	Peter Faure	1735	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:153 (Oct. 9, 1735); Book KK:297 (Mar. 29, 1756); and Book KK: 416 (Nov. 30, 1756).	
	Victor Ferguson	1735	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:157 (May 14, 1735).	
	Robert McMurdy	1735	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:159 (Oct. 29, 1735) and Book GG:136 (Apr. 27, 1747).	
	Robert Moran	1735	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:143 (Jan. 25, 1735).	
	Isaac Porcher	1735	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:163 (Dec. 13, 1735) and Book GG:306 (Mar. 26, 1748).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1730-1730 (Cont.)	George Rivers	1735	Plat for William Ar- nold, 1735.	
	Job Rothmahler	1735	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:167, (Dec. 12, 1735).	
	Nathaniel Dean	1736	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:188 (Mar. 30, 1736); Book KK:219 (Sept. 17, 1755); and Book KK: 417 (Dec. 8, 1756).	
	George Beamish	1736	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:170 (Jan. 14, 1736).	
	James Gillespie	1736	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:186 (Mar. 24, 1736) and Book FF:45 (Mar. 15, 1743).	
	John Harkin	1736	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:198 (Apr. 23, 1736).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1730-1739 (Cont.)	George Pawley	1736	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:192 (Apr. 17, 1736).	Surveyed the N.C./ S.C. bound- ary, 1764.
	Thomas Clifford	1738	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:255 (Apr. 24, 1738).	
1740-1749	John Fairchild	1741	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book DD:336 (Feb. 9, 1741); Book GG:376 (Oct. 21, 1748); Book KK, (Oct. 11, 1755); and Book KK:512 (Nov. 4, 1757).	A very pro- lific sur- veyor, mainly worked in the middle country.
	John Liviston	1741	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book FF:61 (Apr. 27, 1741); Book KK:220 (Oct. 17, 1755); and Book KK: 417 (Dec. 9, 1756).	
	Henry Yonge	1743	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book EE:319 (Jun. 8, 1743).	May have been a sur- veyor gen- eral in Georgia, 1754).

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1740-1749 (Cont.)	William Smith	1743	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book FF:61 (Jun. 6, 1743).	
	Walter Augustine	1745	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book FF:291 (Jun. 5, 1745).	
	Abraham Kerslake	1747	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book GG:216 (Nov. 3, 1747).	
	Robert Screven	1748	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book GG:316 (Apr. 29, 1748).	
	William Wilkins	1748	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book GG:390 (Dec. 6, 1748).	
	John Pearson	1749	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book HH:36 (Jun. 19, 1749) and Book KK:262 (Feb. 10, 1756).	
1750-1759	Zachariah Braz- ier	1750	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book HH:286 (Aug. 15, 1750).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1750-1759 (Cont.)	Stephen Bull	1750	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book HH:485 (Mar. 22, 1750) and Book LL, pt. 2:60 (May 2, 1762).	
	Joseph Chatwin	1750	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book HH:394 (Feb. 9, 1750) and Book KK:228 (Oct. 8, 1755).	
	Andrew Deveau	1750	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book HH:215 (Apr. 16, 1750).	Surveyor from "the Indian lands in Granville County."
	John Hamilton	1750	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book HH:891 (Feb. 22, 1750); Book KK:220 (Oct. 22, 1755); Book KK:331 (Dec. 18, 1756).	A prolific surveyor, worked mostly in the middle country.
	Elisha Butler	1751	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book II, pt. 1:6 (May 16, 1751).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1750-1759 (Cont.)	Benjamin Jackson	1751	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book II, pt. 1:61 (Sept. 7, 1751).	
	James Thompson	1751	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book II, pt. 1:94 (Nov. 6, 1751); and Book KK:497 (Feb. 3, 1757).	
	William Maine	1752	Commissions for <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book II, pt. 1:65 (Dec. 1, 1752); and Book LL, pt. 2:597 (Apr. 5, 1763).	Surveyor for Henry Laurens.
	James McPherson	1752	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book II, pt. 1:223 (Jun. 11, 1752).	
	Samuel Wyly	1752	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book II, pt. 2:369 (Dec. 15, 1752); and Book KK:403 (Oct. 6, 1756).	Surveyed N.C./S.C. boundary, 1764.

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1750-1759 (Cont.)	Philip Pearson	1768	Plat for Jacob Keble- man, 1768.	
	John Evans	1754	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book II, pt. 2:672 (May 13, 1754) and Book KK:484 (Apr. 25, 1757).	
	Owen Bowen	1754	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book II, pt. 2:624 (Feb. 20, 1754); Book KK:242 (Oct. 8, 1755); and Book LL: 595 (Mar. 31, 1763).	
	George Jackson	1755	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book KK:220 (Oct. 28, 1755) and Book LL, pt. 2:602 (May 3, 1763).	
	James Thomson	1755	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book KK:220 (Oct. 7, 1755) and Book KK:497 (Feb. 3, 1757).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1750-1759 (Cont.)	John Carmichael	1756	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book KK:275 (Jul. 8, 1756) and Book KK:387 (Dec. 18, 1756).	
	Joseph Curry	1756	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book KK:221 (Jan. 31, 1756) and Book KK:410 (Oct. 20, 1756).	
	Robert Edwards	1756	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book KK:275 (Apr. 23, 1756) and Book KK:416 (Dec. 7, 1756).	
	William Evans	1756	Plat for Francis Brown, 1756.	
	Wood Furman	1756	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:16 (Dec. 16, 1756).	
	Edward Musgrove	1756	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book KK:262 (Feb. 19, 1756) and Book KK:416 (Dec. 8, 1756).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1750-1759 (Cont.)	John Wade	1756	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book KK:221 (Feb. 4, 1756) and Book KK:417 (Dec. 8, 1756).	
	Nicholas West	1756	Commissions in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book KK:296 (Mar. 20, 1756).	
	Benjamin Farar	1757	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book KK:421 (Jan. 4, 1767).	
	Hugh Thompson	1757	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book KK:297 (Mar. 2, 1757).	
	Ulrich Tobler	1757	Plat for Lachlan McGillivray, 1757.	
	Patrick Calhoun	1758	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:51 (Jun. 8, 1758).	A prolific surveyor, especially in the middle country townships.
	John Gaston	1758	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:14 (Apr. 4, 1758).	A prolific surveyor, especially in the Catawba area.

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1750-1759 (Cont.)	Joshua McPherson	1758	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book KK:502 (Jan. 6, 1758).	
	Matthew McCreest	1759	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:218, (Aug. 7, 1759).	
1760-1769	John Bull, Jr.	1761	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:352, (Mar. 5, 1761).	
	John Girardeau	1761	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:424, (Dec. 18, 1761).	
	William Jameson	1761	Plat for Susanah Davis, 1761.	
	George Johnson	1761	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:421, (Dec. 4, 1761).	
	Isaac Perry	1761	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:419, (Nov. 20, 1761).	
	John Belton	1762	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:550 (Oct. 23, 1762).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1760-1769 (Cont.)	George Walker	1762	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:551, (Oct. 25, 1762).	
	John Berwick	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:602, May 8, 1763).	
	Nathaniel Brad- well	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:594 (Mar. 31, 1763).	
	Joseph Chelwood	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:602, (May 4, 1763).	
	William Davis	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:596, (Apr. 6, 1763).	
	James Doharty	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:602, (May 3, 1763).	
	Henry Dunn	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:602, (May 2, 1763).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1760-1769 (Cont.)	Josiah Dupont	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:597 (Apr. 14, 1763).	
	Edmund Egan	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:595 (Apr. 6, 1763).	
	Henry Fairchild	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:650 (Sept. 13, 1763).	
	Samuel Gaillard	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:602 (May 3, 1763).	
	John Lewis	1763	Plat for James Love, 1763.	
	John Linder	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:602 (May 3, 1763).	
	George MacKin- tosh	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:602 (May 2, 1763).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1760-1769 (Cont.)	Lacklan McKintosh	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:597 (Apr. 14, 1763).	
	Thomas P. Mant	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:596 (Apr. 6, 1763).	
	John Pelot	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:602, (May 4, 1763).	
	Philip Smith	1763	Plat for 1763.	
	David Toomer	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:602, (May 3, 1763).	
	James Wentworth	1763	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book LL:597, (Apr. 13, 1763).	
	Richard Winn	1763	Plat for Joseph Hallam, 1763.	
	James Cantey	1764	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:52, (Jan. 17, 1764).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1760-1769 (Cont.)	William Glascock	1764	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:80, (Mar. 6, 1764).	
	John Mitchell	1764	Plat for Samuel Jackson, 1764.	
	George Baldwin	1765	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:288, (July 2, 1765).	
	John Francis Buttet	1765	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:317, (Aug. 12, 1765).	
	Alexius Forster	1765	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:330, (Oct. 1, 1765).	
	John Pickens	1765	Plat for Arthur Gray, 1765.	
	William Wofford	1765	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:312, (July 3, 1765).	
	William Anderson	1766	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:386 (July 3, 1766).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1760-1769 (Cont.)	John Caldwell	1766	Plat for 1766.	
	Ralph Humphreys	1766	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:509, (Nov. 14, 1766).	
	Mathew Long	1766	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:386, (June 5, 1766).	
	James Mikell	1766	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:386, (June 5, 1766).	
	Enoch Pearson	1766	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:500, (Oct. 8, 1766).	
	George Strother	1766	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:566, (Oct. 10, 1766).	
	John Winn	1766	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:386, (June 4, 1766).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1760-1769 (Cont.)	William Reihard Ford	1766	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:619, (June 12, 1767).	
	John Kidd	1767	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:666, (July 10. 1767).	
	John Nelson	1767	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book MM:556, (Jan. 17, 1767).	
	John Wilkinson	1767	Plat for Robert Alcorn, 1767.	
	Peter Balin	1768	Plat for George Pauley, Jr., 1768.	
	William Carsen	1768	Plat for Robert Harper, 1768.	
	Archibald Craw- ford	1768	Plat for John Morris, 1768.	
	John Dooly	1768	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book NN:96, (Feb. 3, 1768).	
	James Dozer	1768	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book NN:397, (Oct. 19, 1768).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1760-1769 (Cont.)	John Dozer	1768	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book NN:99, (Feb. 3, 1768).	
	Hugh Giles	1768	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book NN:367, (Sept. 2, 1768).	
	William Gist	1768	Plat for Edward Mus- grove, 1768.	
	Samuel James	1768	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book NN:130, (Feb. 16, 1768).	
	Robert Maning	1768	Plat for John Grayson, 1768.	
	Jared Neilson	1768	Plat for James Gray, 1768.	
	John Alison	1769	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book OO:47, Apr. 7, 1769).	
	Joseph Gourley	1769	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book OO:180, (Dec. 5, 1769).	
	Isham Moore	1769	Plat for 1769.	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1770-1775 (Cont.)	John Aston	1770	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , (Jan. 2, 1770).	
	Ephraim Mitchell	1770	Plat for 1770.	
	Henry Morgon	1770	Plat for Thomas Breen- land, 1770.	
	Joseph Palmer	1770	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book OO:414 (Nov. 5, 1770).	
	Elias Robert	1770	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book OO:308, (June 6, 1770).	
	Jonah Robert	1770	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book OO:417, (Nov. 7, 1770).	
	Thomas Sabb	1770	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book OO:437, (Dec. 20, 1770).	
	Andrew Stevenson	1770	Plat for Alexander Adam- son, 1770.	
	Alexander Walker	1770	Plat for James Braves, 1770.	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1770-1775 (Cont.)	James Wofford	1770	Plat for Raif Jack- son, 1770.	
	Joshua Wombwell	1770	Plat for James Sanders, 1770.	
	Malcom Clarke	1771	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book OO:517, (Mar. 6, 1771).	
	William Downes	1771	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book OO:553, (Apr. 20, 1771).	
	John Fenwick	1771	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book OO:485 (Feb. 12, 1771).	
	Isaac Gaillard	1771	Plat for Tacitus Gaillard, 1771.	
	William Gould	1771	Plat for Daniel Bates, 1771.	
	William Goode	1771	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book OO:521, (Mar. 6, 1771).	
	LeRoy Hammond	1771	Plat for William Mose- ley, Jr., 1771.	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1770-1775 (Cont.)	Alexander Kennedy	1771	Commission in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book PP:82, (Dec. 6, 1771).	
	John Loveless	1771	Commission in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book PP:79, (Dec. 4, 1771).	
	Mordecai McFarland	1771	Plat for Samuel Jackson, 1771.	
	William Rigby Naylor	1771	Commission in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book PP:87, (Dec. 10, 1771).	
	Job Owen	1771	Commission in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book PP:85, (Dec. 7, 1771).	
	Anthony Pouncey	1771	Plat for Daniel James, 1771.	
	James Rembert	1771	Commission in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book OO:517, (Mar. 6, 1771).	
	Alexander Turner	1771	Commission in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book OO:573, (May 9, 1771).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1770-1775 (Cont.)	Joseph Wright	1771	Plat for William Golden, 1771.	
	Francis Adam	1772	Commission in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book PP:277, (Sept. 2, 1772).	
	John Bowie	1772	Plat for Hugh Lowry, 1772.	
	Zachariah Bullock		Plat for Francis Mc-Namar, 1772.	
	Patrick Cain	1772	Plat for 1772.	
	William Caldwell	1772	Plat for 1772.	
	Thomas Clarke	1772	Plat for John D. Ruppell, 1772.	
	Benjamin Cook	1772	Commission in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book PP:135, (Feb. 13, 1772).	
	James Cook	1772	Commission in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book PP:190, (May, 1772).	Commission to run the N.S.-S.C. boundary.
	Patrick Cunningham-	1772	Plat for Mary Mark, 1772.	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1770-1775 (Cont.)	David Cunningham	1772	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:612, (Feb. 5, 1772).	
	Daniel William	1772	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:354, (Dec. 16, 1772).	
	Elias Dubose	1772	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:367, (Sept. 29, 1772).	
	John Ellison	1772	Plat for Rachel Harper, 1772.	
	Robert Ellison	1772	Plat for John Long, 1772.	
	John Haig	1772	Plat for Robert Low, 1772.	
	William Heard	1772	Plat for John Zimmer- man, 1772.	
	Mathew Holding	1772	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:276, (Aug. 8, 1772).	
	David Hopkins	1772	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:105, (Jan. 10, 1772).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1770-1775 (Cont.)	Joseph Kirkland	1772	Plat for Alexander Brodie, 1772.	
	Isaac Love	1772	Plat for Hugh Beard, 1772.	
	John McCall	1772	Plat for Reuben White, 1772.	
	Nathaniel Moore	1772	Plat for John Green, 1772.	
	George Mosse	1772	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book RR:42, (Mar. 2, 1772).	
	John Murphy	1772	Plat for John Oli- phant, 1772.	
	James Peart	1772	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:142, (Mar. 7, 1772).	
	Thomas Powe	1772	Plat for John Jameson, 1772.	
	John Purvis	1772	Plat #3 for George Blaikie, 1772.	
	James Rivers	1772	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:107, (Jan. 20, 1772).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1770-1775 (Cont.)	John Robarts	1772	Plat for James Smyly, 1772.	
	David Reynolds	1772	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:408, (Dec. 5, 1772).	
	John Talbird	1772	Plat for James Doharty, 1772.	
	Daniel Thomas	1772	Plat for William Akins, 1772.	
	Thomas Dooly	1773	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:491, (Apr. 8, 1773).	
	Robert Cunning- ham	1773	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:408, (Feb. 4, 1773).	
	Jonathan Downes	1773	Plat for Alexander Mc- Nary, 1773.	
	Stephen Bull, Jr.	1773	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:432, (Mar. 6, 1773).	
	William Benison	1773	Plat for Joseph Grier, 1773.	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1770-1775 (Cont.)	James Bradin	1773	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:408, (Jan. 23, 1773).	
	Hugh Anderson	1773	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:491, (May 8, 1773).	
	William Barrow	1773	Plat for William Barry, 1773.	
	John Armstrong	1773	Plat for George Gray, 1773.	
	William Love	1773	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:409, (Feb. 4, 1773).	
	John Johnson	1773	Plat for John Melchior Ruff, 1773.	
	Moses Kirkland	1773	Plat for Mark Lott, 1773.	
	George A. Hall	1773	Plat for John Mayer, 1773.	
	Thomas Green	1773	Plat for John Smith, 1773.	
	John Heard	1773	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:491, (Apr. 16, 1773).	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1770-1775 (Cont.)	James Knight, Jr.	1773	Plat for Thomas Powe, 1773.	
	Robert Lang	1773	Plat for Jacob Smith, 1773.	
	Andrew Mc- Dowell	1773	Plat for Patrick Lowrey, 1773.	
	Sameul Neilson	1773	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:409, (Feb. 4, 1773).	
	David Monaghan	1773	Plat for George Hicks, 1773.	
	Robert McFadden	1773	Plat for Evan Benbow, 1773.	
	Edward Hampton	1773	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book PP:409, (Feb. 4, 1773).	
	Andrew Thomas	1773	Plat for C. M. Coslett, 1773.	
	Zachariah Rob- arts	1773	Plat for John Lydner, 1773.	
	John Smith	1773	Plat for Benjamin Mob- ley, 1773.	
	Joseph Robinson	1773	Plat for William Hill, 1773.	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1770-1775 (Cont.)	James Wood	1773	Plat for Samuel Gra-ville, 1773.	
	William Simp-son	1773	Commission in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book PP:491, (Apr. 7, 1773).	
	John Rogers	1773	Commission in <u>Misc. Records</u> , Book PP:408, (Feb. 4, 1773).	
	Thomas Platt	1773	Plat for Morgan Sabb, 1773.	
	James Pinker-ton	1773	Plat for Ninian Craig, 1773.	
	Arnold Thomas	1774	Plat for Martha Ellis, 1774.	
	John Henderson	1774	Plat for William Green, 1774.	
	Benjamin Lord	1774	Plat for Andrew Broughton, 1774.	Later became surveyor general of Florida.
	James Stewart	1774	Plat for John Brooker, 1774.	
	Reuben White	1774	Plat for Michael Mixon, 1774.	

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1770-1775 (Cont.)	James Semple, Jr.	1774	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book RR:82, (May 5, 1774).	
	Alexander Craig	1775	Plat for William Bell, 1775.	
	George McDowell	1775	Plat for Joseph Willingham, 1775.	
	John Barron	1775	Plat for Joseph Bell, 1775.	
	Robert Anderson	1775	Plat for Philip Jacobs, 1775.	
	John Hybart	1775	Plat for John Guines, 1775.	
	John Guerri	1775	Commission in <u>Misc.</u> <u>Records</u> , Book RR:166, (Feb. 15, 1775).	
	Lewis Linder	1775	Plat for William Hardy, 1775.	
	William Mitchell	1775	Plat for William Hill, 1775.	
	John Nuckols	1775	Plat for William Bull, 1775.	
	George Renerson	1775	Plat for Zachariah Blackledge, 1775.	

VITA

Linda M. Pett-Conklin was born in Great Falls, Montana, December 24, 1952. She graduated from Poquoson High School, Poquoson, Virginia, in 1970. In 1974, she graduated from Radford College, Radford, Virginia with a Bachelor of Science Degree in geography. She earned the Master of Arts degree in geography from the University of South Carolina in 1976. For the past six years she has been employed as instructor of geography at the University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas.

Permanent Address: 4733 Kinglet
Houston, Texas 77035

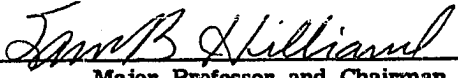
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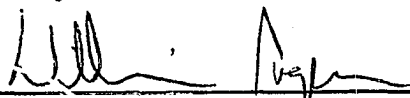
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Major Field: Geography

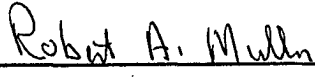
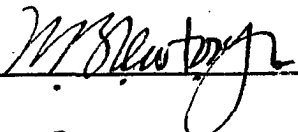
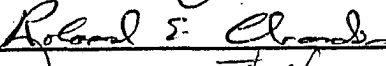
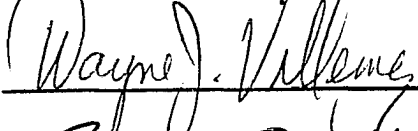

Title of Thesis: Cadastral Surveying in Colonial South Carolina: A Historical Geography

Approved:


Major Professor and Chairman


Dean of the Graduate School

EXAMINING COMMITTEE:

Date of Examination:

January 15, 1986